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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2010

'I FEEL LIKE MY LIFE'S ON HOLD...'

Cowbridge woman's 18-week wait for a hospital appointment

Cowbridge resident Pat Swain says she has "put her life on hold" while she endures an 18-week wait for an outpatient appointment at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

by TIM CHAPMAN

Mrs Swain told The GEM she couldn't understand why people in Wales were having to wait longer for appointments than people in England.

She said: "I feel as if my life is on hold and that I can't plan anything.

"My husband and I were due to travel to California to celebrate my son's 50th birthday on March 26, but I don't feel that I can travel that far because I'm in discomfort, and we've decided to call the visit off."

Pat and Brian have made regular trips to California in the past to see Philip, who works for a computer company in Silicon Valley.

Pat discovered that she would need an appointment as long ago as early November.

"I was diagnosed on November 9 with a condition which my doctor advised would need surgery, so I was referred to The Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

"On ringing two weeks later about my appointment, I was told the wait for my first outpatient appointment would be about 12-14 weeks, which I wasn't too happy about.

"After waiting 'patiently' for 13 weeks, I rang again, only to be told that the wait would now be 17-18 weeks!"

Pat's daughter, Dr Julie Edge, is a consultant physician at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, her son-in-law is a GP in Abingdon, and from what Pat has been able to glean, the English arm of the NHS seems to work more efficiently than the Welsh.

Pat said: "What I want to know is why we in Wales have a second class Health Service compared to patients in England?

"In Wales, there is a target of 26 weeks from referral to treatment, whereas in England it is 18 weeks. Why is that, when we have all paid the same amount for our health coverage through national insurance contributions?"

Pat said that in England there is also flexibility built into the system.

"They have a 'choose and book' system in which they have a letter from the doctor and ring the hospital of their choice within a couple of days and are then given an appointment.

"The latest figures from England give average waiting time for an outpatient appointment at 4.6 weeks and for treatment at 8.6 weeks since January 2009. The same report states that these waiting times are still too long! What luxury this would be for patients in Wales."

Pat pointed out that a Nuffield Trust report stated that Wales had higher funding per capita than in England.

"Obviously, the money isn't going to the right places to benefit patients. In my opinion, one of these is universal free prescriptions. The report states that England gets less, but makes better use of resources."

Pat has been in touch with Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board to explain her frustration, and the board says it is investigating the concerns she has raised.

A spokeswoman for Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board told The GEM: "This lady has submitted a complaint to ABM and we are in the process of responding to her, so it would be inappropriate to comment further on this particular case at the moment.

Pat Swain – she is still waiting for an outpatient appointment at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

"However, in general we can say that in Wales, from December, NHS waiting times targets changed to Referral to Treatment Times (RTT), which now gives a total target time of 26 weeks from when a patient is seen by a GP to the patient receiving treatment.

"The latest published RTT figures for ABM show that we are meeting the 26-week target."

The spokeswoman added: "We understand that patients want access to treatment as quickly as possible, and we do all we can to provide both a timely and quality standard of care."

Purple pinkie polio plan!

RIGHT: Members of Cowbridge Rotary Club were visiting local primary schools on Tuesday (February 23) to explain how Rotary worldwide plans to wipe out polio. Children who have been vaccinated have one finger marked in purple – hence the 'purple pinkie', and these pupils from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg were first in line! (SEE NEXT WEEK FOR FULL DETAILS).

Council to peg tax rise at 3.9 per cent

VALE residents can brace themselves for a council tax increase of 3.9 per cent – the figure that the cabinet of the Vale Council decided upon yesterday afternoon (Wednesday).

by PHILIP IRWIN

Assuming that this figure is then ratified by a meeting of the Vale Council, it will mean that a band D council taxpayer will see the bill rise by £33.57 to a total of £894.33.

It should be remembered that there are two more elements to be added to this bill – the amount raised by the resident's local town or community council, and the cash wanted by South Wales Police for its services.

In fact, the police revealed this week that they would be asking for an extra five per cent, taking a band D resident up to a total of £136.59 (a rise of £7.32).

The amount raised by town and community councils varies. Barry Town Council has set a figure of £47.29, while Llantwit Major has gone for just over £50.

Some small community councils, however, will ask for much lower figures.

If the 3.9 per cent rise is agreed, the Vale Council will be working with a budget of £201, 589,000.

The council will keep the rise below four per cent by using £500,000 of its reserves. However, Sian Davies, the Vale Council director of finance, property and ICT, warns that this will leave the estimated reserves on March 31, 2011, at £4.6 million – just above the recommended minimum level of £4 million.

Her report says that it is essential that all services stay with their budget limits this year.

By far the biggest-spending department is education, which is set at £90, 911,000.

There are of course, still protests being made about plans to shave £300,000 off the education budget by charging for school transport for the over-16s.

If the cabinet were to yield to the education scrutiny committee's demand that the cuts be scrapped, then the education budget would have to be revised upwards by that £300,000 – unless cuts could be found elsewhere.

The other big spending departments are, not surprisingly, adult services (£32,276,000), children and young people's services (£13,067,000), and visible services (£20,343,000).

LOCAL GROUP TAKES ACTION

How can we make the Vale litter-free?

IF anecdotal evidence is anything to go by, the problem of litter seems to be increasing in the Vale.

In the long history of the GEM letters page, we have never received as many letters from people complaining about the depressing sight of discarded items as we did last week.

What can we do to prevent this blight on town and country?

One Vale organisation is leading the way by taking some positive action this weekend.

Transition Cowbridge, the local sustainability group, is organising a series of litter picks.

The first of these will be along the footpath through the Three Fields between Cowbridge and Llanblethian village.

It will take place at 10.30am on Saturday, February 27, and anyone wishing to offer their help is welcome to join in. The group will meet at the Constitution Hill entrance to the footpath to help return the area of natural beauty to its original state.

Rob McGhee, of the Transition group, said: "We noticed the litter problem increasing in this area some weeks ago and decided to mobilise a few people to tackle it. It has become evident from the recent letters in the GEM that this is a problem affecting the town and the surrounding area. We would welcome suggestions of other areas for subsequent litter picks.

"Our group is passionate about the environment in which we live and we want to do all we can to preserve the natural beauty around us and allow the biodiversity to flourish unhindered by plastic, bottles and cans."

For more details, contact Rob McGhee on 01446 775686 or email: transitioncowbridge@googlemail.com

(See Vale Council response, page 13)

Curves
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Bring us a bag of non-perishable food items between 1st and 14th March 2010 and join for FREE. All food will be donated to a local charity.
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SORRY SAGA OF THE FLYING VET

MANY people will agree with the opinion of David Kennett in The GEM last week regarding the huge amount of public money squandered by the South Wales Police and judiciary in pursuing Maurice Kirk through the courts.

A visit to his website reads like a fantasy documentary, saying much about this extraordinary man.

There is no doubt that he is a highly intelligent maverick who relishes the limelight.

There are not many individuals who have flown a single engine aircraft over the Atlantic and parked it near the US president's ranch!

Although his deep-seated grievances appear incomprehensible, what should be of concern is the manner in which the legal authorities have treated this man.

He has not been convicted of any serious offence, apart from trivial misdemeanours.

We are supposed to live in a society where opposing views and attitudes are tolerated in a democracy, and individuals with unorthodox or unconventional views are not subject to fears of harassment and imprisonment.

I hope we have an elected representative here in south Wales conscious of what has happened in this sorry saga.

Mr Kirk should be let be and allowed to get on with his life – and not be either prosecuted or persecuted in our name and at our expense.

For the record, I am not related in any way to Mr Kirk, or have any interest, other than fair play for this much-maligned gentleman.

Ken Beaumont, Llanblethian

'Local horse owner was quite right'

WITH reference to a recent letter in The GEM, as an animal lover, I think it's great to see both dogs and horses on the beach playing and exercising.

It is unfortunate that some dogs are not supervised enough. I think the owners had a cheek to criticise the rider when their dogs were trying to attack the horse.

I admire the manner in which she handled it and agree wholeheartedly with all of her comments.

Sally Carty

Welsh Guards reunited

WELSH Guards Reunited was set up in November 2006, as a contact point for serving and non-serving Welsh Guards and their families, and it now boasts more than 2,500 members.

The Battalion has recently returned from active service in Afghanistan. Many of our members have spent time raising money for the Afghanistan Appeal.

Our most recent event took place in Porthcawl when around 250 non-serving Welsh Guardsmen attended the Seabank Hotel on January 22-23.

It raised the staggering amount of £3,407. This brings total money raised for the Afghanistan Appeal to £22,607 in just over 12 months.

Our next project is a bike ride from north Wales to Cardiff in aid of Ty Hafan and Ty Gobaith children's hospices.

Mandy Wakely, (Welsh Guards Reunited)

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'SPEAK UP FOR VALE HERITAGE CENTRE!'

DR Jonathan Hicks and his team of local historians (The Vale Heritage Centre Coalition) who are promoting the idea of a Vale Heritage Centre, should be supported and encouraged in their efforts.

I have lived in Barry for 50 years, and have seen major changes to the town in that time, with apparently little effort being made to retain and preserve our heritage.

As someone who holidays in the UK, almost every little town and village I visit seems to have something to offer the visitor, in the way of an attraction or facility that preserves and presents the past.

The exact nature of these facilities varies widely, as does the amount of money that has gone into setting up and operating the facility.

Surely Barry should have a place like this? A place where people can lend or give historical assets, knowing that they will be properly looked-after and made available for others to learn from and enjoy.

A place that can help tell the story of the area. and is readily accessible to all.

A place that might actually encourage people to visit the town, or provide something extra to do if it's too wet for the beach or the shopping is completed.

Too many artefacts have been lost and are now only available as memories, stories or perhaps photographs. We need to do something now, and Dr Hicks and his team seem to be the best bet for a co-ordinated approach that we have had in a long time!

Support the proposal, and make sure that your voice is heard if you have any suggestion as to what facilities should be offered, what should be presented, and how it should be presented. I'm no historian, but I have an opinion, and I intend to have it listened to.

Suggestions can also be posted to the message board at *www.barrywales.co.uk* and they will be presented to the Vale Heritage Centre Coalition.

Steve Williams, Barry (Non-historian member of The Vale Heritage Centre Coalition)

'It's time developers came clean on Waterfront marina scheme'

IT was good to see the Vale Council's cabinet have decided to invite offers from the business world to build a hotel, and possibly a restaurant, in the Innovation quarter of the Waterfront.

As councillors for that part of the Waterfront, we see it as a positive move towards the development of Barry, especially as they are continuing to pursue what the previous Labour-led coalition administration had begun in trying to bring a hotel to the area.

However, what is disturbing is the attitude of the Waterfront Consortium in opposing this exciting plan, when they have hitherto promised much but delivered nothing.

In the world of business, we understood competition was important, but this does not seem to be the case on the Waterfront.

We would have thought that a successfully-operating hotel, hopefully with a decent medium-priced restaurant on the site, would be a catalyst for other entrepreneurs to invest in the Waterfront development.

Such a hotel and restaurant would be an example of what an attractive imaginative development the Waterfront could become, and attract visitors, local people and other recreational business proprietors.

We are also still puzzled about the fate of the marina, which two years ago was much talked about.

The council obviously is not in a position to do anything about it as it does not own the land, but unless a marina is developed before the houses and recreational facilities are built, it would be impractical to add a marina afterwards.

The Waterfront development's 'artist's impression of the final development, indicates the water in the dock as being a major influence and is flaunted as an attraction for potential buyers to live on the development.

Therefore, we would ask the developers to come clean on what they will be doing and tell the people of Barry what has happened to their marina and 'Martha's Vineyard' type waterfront café quarter.

Margaret Alexander
Stuart Egan,
Councillors for Buttrills ward, Vale of Glamorgan Council

Mighty pen silenced

IT is said the pen is mightier than the sword and it certainly was in my brother's case.

You allowed him to air his views, very strongly, through your newspaper, for which I thank you.

People agreed or not, but he at least made you think and, in some cases, put pen to paper yourselves.

He was a local businessman and literally built Barry Auto Engineering from the ground up. He was known to workmates and customers as Ken, to me Kerry, to GEM readers as KRJ Green.

He was a force to be reckoned with, but as strong as he was, he unfortunately lost his battle against mesothelioma on February 8.

Lin Mathews, Barry

Footnote: We, too, will sadly miss a lively contributor to our columns.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MARCH 4)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
25 Thur	02.52	7.9	15.36	8.1
26 Fri	04.12	8.6	16.39	8.8
27 Sat	05.08	9.4	17.29	9.6
28 Sun	05.57	10.2	18.17	10.2
01 Mon	06.37	10.6	19.09	10.6
02 Tues	07.19	10.8	19.49	10.6
03 Wed	08.07	10.7	20.31	10.3
04 Thur	08.47	10.2	21.07	9.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

USEFUL VALE INFORMATION

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
(Emergency number 999)
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline **0800 9178282**
National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk
Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0808 800 5000.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support - Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

To make a surgery appointment with John Smith MP, contact the constituency office (01446) 743769. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 4.30am (Wed 11am-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.

Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.

Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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Benefits offences: two local women are sentenced

TWO local women who admitted unlawfully obtaining housing and council tax benefits totalling more than £21,000, have appeared at the Vale Magistrates Court in Barry.

Arleen James, of Primrose Close, Cowbridge, who submitted two forms with false information and unlawfully obtained £13,452.44, received an eight-week prison sentence, suspended for six months. Nicola Groves, of Caerleon Road, Dinas Powys, who received a total of £8,062.19 after failing to disclose a change of circumstances, was fined £165.

Mrs James, who was made the subject of a three-month 9pm-7am curfew, was also ordered to pay £399.03 costs. Miss Groves was also ordered to pay £200 costs and a £15 victim surcharge,

Both cases were brought by the Vale Council, and the overpayments are recoverable from the defendants.

Mrs James, the court heard, had claimed benefits as a 'single adult occupier with no partner' since 2004. However, following a referral from the National Fraud Initiative in April, 2009, it was discovered, through a taxi licence application to the Vale Council's licensing division, that a man was living at her address.

In the case of Miss Groves, the court was told the defendant was in receipt of benefits, on the basis that she was a single person with a child on income support.

However, an investigation launched in July last year revealed that a partner, who was in employment, had lived with Miss Groves since October, 2007, and, as a result, entitlement to income support and subsequent benefits ceased. This information was not disclosed.

Observatory will be based at Dyffryn Gardens

CARDIFF Astronomical Society is on course to build an observatory in Dyffryn Gardens, at St Nicholas, for use of its members and the public.

It will be sited in a low light pollution area next door to the Cory Educational Centre at the gardens, so lectures can also be held in conjunction with observing events.

Work commences in the spring and it should be operational by the end of the year.

The project is being funded by Cardiff Astronomical Society, but with the cooperation of the Vale of Glamorgan astronomical society and Dyffryn Gardens.

The observatory will be purchased from a professional supplier and erected once the foundations and telescope pier are in place at the site. There will be full disabled access.

The telescope, already in the Cardiff society's possession, is a computer-controlled instrument with an impressive 305 mm aperture.

A sliding roof will let the telescope see the sky, while a covered annexe will house operating equipment and cater to visitors' comfort.

In due course, Cardiff Astronomical Society will be able to transmit live images to visitors at the Cory Centre during lectures.

MARC DELANEY

'Six hit' for Haiti by Y Bont Faen primary pupils

THE children of Y Bont Faen, like many others around the world, were moved by the images from Haiti and wanted to help.

Following a discussion with Cowbridge Rotary Club, the children decided to organise a sponsored decathlon event to buy a Shelterbox.

This big green box contains a 10-person tent, blankets (which are also waterproof), cooking equipment, tools, sleeping bags, survival materials and an activity pack for children - containing crayons, paper etc.

Each box costs £490, and so the children aimed to raise enough money for at least one box.

The year-6 children, together with the school council, designed the sponsor forms, the timetable and the activities. The day was a huge success, with every child from nursery to year-6 taking part.

'Whew, this fundraising is hard work!'

The children raised a staggering £3,015, which will buy six Shelterboxes for the people of Haiti!

Don and Bob from Cowbridge Rotary, visited school on Friday, and brought with them a demonstration Shelterbox for the children to see.

The school would like to thank all the children for their hard work in fundraising, the parents and friends of Y Bont Faen Primary, Cowbridge Rotary and Miss Jackie Jones for her help in keeping the entire day on track.

To fin d out more about the Shelterbox charity, visit www.shelterbox.org

Schools' councils put e-safety on agenda

SCHOOL Council members from St Brides Major Church-in-Wales Primary School and Wick and Marcross Church-in-Wales Primary school recently held a joint meeting to discuss e-safety.

They discussed internet security, networking sites, dangers and the positive and negative aspects of internet use.

They discussed issues as a group before separating into smaller groups to create rules for safe internet use and other issues.

The schools enjoyed working together and plan to hold another joint meeting next term.

"It just goes to show that working together is fun and productive. Well done to both School Councils for their valuable input," said Clare Matthews, the acting headteacher at St Brides Major Primary School.

Quilts and yet more quilts!

ST NICHOLAS WI

THE first meeting in 2010 was held on February 4 after the January meeting was cancelled, due to the ice and snow.

It took a new format, with the speaker addressing the group before the business meeting and refreshments.

The speaker was Mrs Sonia Fox, who talked about the history and art of quilting, while showing a variety of quilts which were on display.

Mrs Jan Hayes gave the vote of thanks and Mrs Ann Bryant, newly-elected president, then conducted the business meeting.

A warm welcome was extended to the three prospective members.

The monthly competition was won by Mrs Fran Mitchell.

The next meeting will be held in the hall at St Nicholas at 7pm on March 4. A warm welcome is extended to guests and new members.

Anyone who may require transport should contact Enid Evans, on 01446 781240.

In and out of class at the Llanhari Primary

Green Flag award

CHILDREN and staff have worked hard over the past two years, collecting information and improving the Green credentials of Llanhari Primary, which has led to bronze and silver awards.

However, the ultimate aim is to achieve the coveted Green Flag award and final assessment is due to take place in March.

Good wishes

A BIG thank you to Mr Snook, who has helped the school over the past year, coaching rugby, supporting football and also supporting pupils' learning.

We all wish him every success in his new job.

Safety first!

PARENTS and children are asked to use either the school gates by the nursery, or the hall, to enter the school grounds in the mornings.

The car park gates are to be used by staff cars only and not for pedestrian access. There have been incidents where cars have had near misses with pupils and parents using these gates.

Eisteddfod

PARENTS will be able to see the best of our Eisteddfod day on March 1 at 1.30pm in the school hall.

Attendance matters – *is your child missing out?*

WE have been advised that our absence levels now exceed the acceptable all-Wales levels.

While most parents remember to let us know when their child is absent, there are still some who do not inform us.

What does the law say?

● All children between the ages of 5 and 16 must get a suitable full-time education.

As a parent, you are responsible for making sure this happens and you have a vital role in ensuring and promoting regular attendance at school.

● If your child fails to attend school regularly – even if the miss school without you knowing – the Local Education Authority may take action against you!

BRIDGE IN COWBRIDGE

THE Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club played at Cowbridge Rugby Club in the East Wales Bridge Association simultaneous pairs competition, also held by nine other clubs on Monday, February 8 and Tuesday, February 9 were as follows:

1st, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, 58.63 per cent; 2nd, Terry Evans and Alan Lewis, 57.74; 3rd, Terri Pollard and Brian Swain, 55.84; 4th, Simon and Jonathan Richards 54.55; 5th, John Henson and Graham Norris, 54.46; 6th, Marion and David Stephenson 54.22.

The Cowbridge and District Bridge Club played at Llanblethian Church Hall – 1st, Marian East and Pauline McAllen, 70.24 per cent; 2nd, Terri Pollard and David Wright, 59.52; 3rd, Amy Owen and Joan Bird, 57.14; 4th, Joyce Birmingham and Pam Higgs, 54.37; 5th, Hugh Williams and Gordon Berrey, 53.57; 6th, Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear, 53.17.

The Vale of Glamorgan Club played at Cowbridge Rugby Club on February 15 – 1st, Simon Richards and Mike Best, 63.64 per cent; 2nd, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, 62.66; =3rd, Alan Williams and Liam Sheridan, 59.09; =3rd, John Henson and Barrie Waite, 59.09; 5th, Muriel Maslin and Joan Bird, 54.87; 6th, Terry Reilly and John Evans, 52.08.

Cowbridge and District Bridge Club played at Llanblethian Church Hall on February 16 – 1st, Hugh Williams and Gordon Berrey, 76.59 per cent; 2nd, Pat and Brian Swain, 63.89; 3rd, Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear, 55.95; 4th, Glenda Roberts and Amy Owen, 51.98; 5th, Pauline McAllen and Judy Springett, 51.19; 6th, Sara Bartlett and Anne Hughes, 50.00.

Congratulations to Hugh and Gordon on achieving over 75 per cent.

BS

A Galapagos adventure...

LLANBLETHIAN WI

THIS was the first meeting of the New Year, January's having been cancelled due to the weather, so members had a lot to catch up on and attendance was good.

On the monthly business front, there are plenty of sporting opportunities this spring – a darts tournament is forming; there will be indoor bowls and table tennis competitions; a spring walk in Llantwit Major; and expeditions further afield to Cheltenham and Bruges.

Money raised from this evening's competition will go toward the Associated Country Women of the World, the international association of women's organisations with which the WI is affiliated.

The money raised by our monthly competitions goes towards worthwhile causes in countries where it is most needed – 'Pennies For Friendship', it is called.

The speaker that evening went further afield again: Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, a slide show and very informative commentary by Linda Nottage.

This is a trip many would like to take, and Mrs Nottage's advice was to choose a wildlife tour operator specialising in small groups, guided by local experts.

The photography was superlative, and Mrs Jean Powell presented the vote of thanks.

The next meeting will feature a talk on the history of fashion on March 11, at 7.30pm.

Country market

COWBRIDGE Country Market will reopen in the Lesser Hall on Friday, March 5, at 10am.

Mothers with children in pushchairs and disabled people can enter at 9.45am.

As usual, the market will be selling a range of baked goods, savouries – including vegetarian, preserves, local honey, vegetables, plants and crafts.

Bakery items and garden produce are always freshly cooked and freshly picked.

A spokeswoman said: "If you cannot get to the market on Fridays, why not place an order for someone to collect between 10am-11am.

For further information telephone 01446 774643 or 01446 774703.

Future markets will be on the first Friday in the month.

Read your GEM online at www. cowbridge-today.co.uk

Don't forget to re-tune your Freeview TV or box on 3 March

Questions?
Call 08456 50 50 50 (English language) or 08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language).

get set for digital

Local store is thanked as appeal raises £5,000 for the British Legion

RIGHT: Graham Davies (on left) Barbara Davies (far right) and the Legion branch chairman, John Hobbs, present Waitrose manager Caroline Sullivan with a certificate thanking the store for its support during the Poppy Appeal

MEMBERS of a Royal British Legion branch have presented the staff of a local store with a certificate of appreciation, after they collected more than £5,000 during last year's Poppy Appeal.

Poppy Appeal stalwarts Graham and Barbara Davies are a familiar sight at the Waitrose store in Barry every October and November.

Graham, aged 76, who is originally from Pembroke and served in the Artillery during the 1950s, said: "The certificate is to put on record our thanks to Caroline and the staff members for their hospitality.

"When we do the collection we arrive at 8am each morning, and the staff are always helpful, asking if they can help with the stand or if there is anything else we need."

Last year over a 17-day period, which ended on November 11, Graham and Barbara raised a total of £5,135.50.

They were beaten to the Poppy Appeal Area Cup, by Bridgend Asda which has the significant advantage of being a 24 hour a day store. The chairman of the Barry branch of the Royal British Legion, Mr John Hobbs, said: "While we must remember and honour those who have died, it is important to also remember the living, and that is what the Poppy Appeal does – looking after the families of Service personnel, both past and present."

OILS DEMO

COWBRIDGE Art Society meets today (February 25) at 7pm in Old Hall, High Street, when John Hutchins will be returning to give a demonstration of landscape in oils.

On Thursday, March 4, also at 7.30pm, in Old Hall, Anthea De La Roche will give a demonstration and practical on the law of colour. Non-members welcome.

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Police probe after man's body found

POLICE are investigating the sudden, unexplained death of a 75-year-old man in Llanharan, whose body was found at around 9.15am on Sunday, February 21, in a culvert near Bridgend Road.

An initial post-mortem examination proved inconclusive and further tests aew being carried out to determine cause of death.

Detective Chief Inspector Mike Cranswick, who is leading the investigation, said: "We know that the man had been socialising in a number of local pubs on Saturday evening and that he left Llanharan Rugby Club at around 12.45am on Sunday.

"He then walked along Bridgend Road, which would have been his usual short walk home; however, on Sunday morning his body was found in a nearby stream.

"Since then, extensive enquiries have been made in Llanharan to establish the circumstances leading up to his death and these are continuing.

"We are particularly keen to hear from a group of five males who it is thought had a conversation with the gentleman in Bridgend Road in the early hours of Sunday.

"I would ask these people, or anyone else with information, to contact the incident room at Bridgend Police Station on 01656 306099."

News in and out of class at the Llangan Primary School

LLANGAN Primary School pupils enjoyed learning about some of the world's more exotic inhabitants recently.

Last week, the school invited David from Animal Zone to visit with a large selection of spiders, snakes, lizards, cockroaches, and other creepy crawlies so that the children could learn at first hand all about each animal. They were able to hold the animals too! This included a 9ft albino python and other snakes.

The children (and staff) got so much enjoyment and knowledge from the day!

ABOVE and BELOW: The children handled the animals too!

Haiti

The staff and pupils also organised a Haiti day and hope to raise a lot of money to send out to the disaster area.

The children all dressed in red instead of their usual blue, and each child brought in a donation for the charity.

A sponsored skip around the school playground was also held with the older children helping the infants to get around the course.

A Valentine's disco also raised funds for Haiti. cause.

NEWS FROM THE VALE ASTRO OBSERVERS GROUP

'Showpiece celestial objects' viewed at Dyffryn Gardens

THE new year brought us crystal clear nights, an astronomer's delight, but they also coincided with heavy layers of snow on the ground.

It would have been unwise to drive on ungritted roads to our observing sites and unsafe to set up telescopes on the icy ground,.

We had to forego most of these excellent observing conditions, but then the snow melted while clear skies remained.

Accordingly, on January 22, 10 of us enjoyed a superb pre-planned session at Dyffryn Gardens, one of our observing sites.

Winter nights bring out showpiece celestial objects, among the best of which is the Great Orion Nebula region.

Light travels at 300,000 kilometres per second and the Orion Nebula is more than 1,200 light years away: it has taken light that many years to reach us!

We are seeing it as it was that many years ago. A telescope is also a time machine into the past!

The Orion Nebula complex is an active star- forming region and quite spectacular,

Pre-planned observing sessions are arranged by the Cardiff Astronomical Society, and these are listed on the society's website.

We also call additional unplanned sessions to take advantage of clear night – these, too, get shown on the website on the day in question. Members of the public are always welcome.

The website address is cardiff-astronomical-society.co.uk, and you can contact me anytime on 07855 352147.

Marc Delaney

Tea dance for Haiti

THE Cowbridge Strictly Fairtrade Tea Dance in aid of the Haiti appeal takes place in the main hall at Cowbridge Town Hall at 1.30pm-4pm this Saturday, February 27.

Admission £3 (includes one dainty fancy and cup of Fairtrade tea).

"Come dressed to kill (1920s-50s) or choose from an on-the-spot selection of accessories supplied by Cowbridge charity shops," a spokeswoman urged.

CENTENARY EVENT ATTRACTS GUIDES AND BROWNIES FOR A REAL FUN DAY!

ABOVE: Wick and St Bride's Brownies try their hand as cheerleaders.

ABOVE: The Kenfig Hill contingent at the event.

ABOVE: Getting the hips moving in a belly dancing class.

Photos by MANDY THOMAS *are available for purchase. (telephone 07974 518347).*
These and other pictures of the event can be viewed at ***www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk***

MORE than 1,000 Girl Guides and Brownies from all parts of Glamorgan, descended on Pencoed Comprehensive School last weekend for a grand celebration!

This year is the 100th anniversary of the Girlguiding movement in the United Kingdom and to mark the occasion, a series of centenary events are being held locally.

Guiding volunteers in central Glamorgan were chosen to host one of the Girlguiding Cymru events – entitled 'One World, One Beat' – and there was an excellent turnout at the school for a full day of activities.

A Girl Guide spokeswoman said: "February 20 was designated 'World Thinking Day', and its purpose is to encourage the girls involved to think about other people (in particular, other Guides) in different parts of the world."

Around 1,000 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section members from across Wales turned up at the event, and took part in a wide range of music, drama and performing arts workshops.

The celebrations at Pencoed were just one of nine other events that took place across the UK at the same time, involving a total of 18,000 girls.

GEM photographer Mandy Thomas was there to capture the fun with these colourful pictures!

Maendy YFC excel in drama finals and 'B Team' are best!

ABOVE: Maendy YFC actors receive their drama prizes.

THE recent Glamorgan Young Farmers Club drama finals, held at the Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot, on February 11-12, were a show-stopping success.

There was a high standard of talent and competition on display from all eight competing teams – and Maendy YFC did particularly well this year.

Ieuan Rosser (Windmill Farm, Llansannor) won best actor for the third consecutive year, while Rebecca Harry was awarded best actress for her role.

Overall, Maendy B team, who performed George McEwan Green's *No Picnic*, took first place.

Maendy A team finished in a very well-deserved third place, with David Campton's *What are you doing here?*

The winning team now go forward to the Wales finals in Brecon on March 5-6. Maendy will take to the stage on the Saturday evening.

Also competing on the same weekend will be the county senior and junior public speaking teams, including several members from Maendy.

The club would like to extend sincere thanks and gratitude to the drama directors Richard Western and Richard Harris for their hard work and effort this year, especially with two teams rather than the usual one!

Not forgetting the hard work that takes place backstage – special thanks go to Alison Gibbon and Nicola Gibson (make-up); Richard Walker and Lynn Price (scenery) and Abi Reader (lighting and costumes).

Finally, the club wishes past member Paul Llewellyn and wife Steph congratulations on the birth of their second son Luca, a brother to Jack.

We hope all the family are doing well.

HL

Cowbridge concert

COR Dewi Sant will celebrate St David's Day with a concert in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge, on Saturday, March 6, at 7.30 pm.

Tickets (£7.50) are available from Sorrento's High Street, Cowbridge, the parish office and members of the restoration committee.

Details from Pamela Roberts on 01446 772771.

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Vale MP seeks meeting with Justice Ministers over Barry courthouse

LOCAL MP John Smith has had a meeting with members of staff who work at the Vale Magistrates Court, in Barry – to discuss the impact of transferring administration work to Bridgend.

Following a meeting with Sue Brophy and Joanne Davies in his Barry office, Mr Smith reported:

"I wrote to the Justice Secretary in the summer of 2009 expressing my concerns about the detrimental impact the proposal would have on Barry Magistrates' overall performance, and particularly the quality of service provided to court users.

"I received assurances that in no way were these proposals a precursor to the closure of the courthouse, which together with my colleague, Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale, we managed to prevent a few years ago.

"Following my meeting with some of the courts' administrative staff, I believe that the proposed move of work to Bridgend will have a detrimental impact on the performance of the court itself and put at risk the success we have been enjoying here in the Vale in delivering swift justice.

John Smith, the Vale's MP, discussed the future of Barry Magistrates Court administration services with Sue Brophy and Joanne Davies.

"Together with Jane Hutt, we will be seeking to meet with Justice Ministers at the earliest opportunity."

Public and Commercial Services union members say they are opposed to administration work being moved to Bridgend.

As part of a proposed restructure, four members of staff will be forced to redeploy to other workplaces in south Wales while two members remain in Barry to man the reception desk and answer the phone.

PCS union official John Gleeson said: "While the members do have concerns about their personal circumstances, their primary concern is that the proposal is likely to have a significant detrimental impact on the service that is provided to court users in Barry.

"Given that the work is going to have to be transported on a daily basis from Bridgend to Barry and back, the chances of court papers being lost or delayed is significant.

"If this happens, then it will cause delays in court."

A spokesperson for the Courts Service explained that the redeployment of staff had been decided on, following an extensive review of services.

"The changes to staffing at Barry courthouse are part of a wider review of staffing levels across south east Wales.

"Two members of staff will remain at Barry courthouse to provide essential support to court users.

"Staffing cover for these posts and other back office administration support for the court will now be provided from Bridgend courthouse."

BOSCH SITE MUST PROVIDE JOBS IN FUTURE – says Tory AM

by TIM CHAPMAN

THE BOSCH site must be promoted to attract new jobs once the economy starts to grow again, the Conservative parliamentary candidate Alun Cairns AM has said.

Last week, The GEM exclusively revealed that the Vale Council would not allow housing or retail developments on land owned by Bosch – the factory occupies 33 acres and there is 'outline planning consent' for the development of around a further 131 acres for 'industrial purposes'.

Mr Cairns said "This is a substantial chunk of land within the boundaries of the Vale and it is absolutely crucial that it is retained for industrial and employment purposes.

"I understand that it is designated for that in the Unitary Development Plan which makes it much harder to get planning consent for any change of use."

Mr Cairns said that the area did not require any further out-of-town retail developments or large scale housing projects.

"What we desperately need at the moment is jobs. The loss of Bosch with its hundreds of highly skilled jobs is a huge blow both to the Vale and further afield.

"It is essential that we have land available for new industries and companies who can either be attracted to the area from outside Wales or who can be nurtured locally.

"Having a land-bank available – particularly for major projects – is absolutely crucial and it will be up to the Welsh Assembly Government, which has taken over the mantle of the old WDA, to ensure that this site is properly promoted once the economy starts to grow again. We must look to the future."

Last week, Mr Cairns and Assembly colleagues Andrew RT Davies and David Melding, met Bosch chiefs in Stuttgart in a bid to limit the impact of closure on the south Wales community.

Mr Cairns said: "It is regrettable that the Welsh Assembly government took so long to go to meet the senior executives of Bosch.

"It is clear that the best time to support the company would have been during their consultation period. Running to Germany after criticism from the Opposition, is hardly the best way to save jobs.

"I believe that close engagement with Bosch could have allowed a case to be made for the next generation of alternators, thermo electronics and even wind power electrical engineering. Bosch said that a case couldn't be made.

"We emphasised the importance of the site and land to the community. We gained agreement for a working group to be established to consider disposal and called on full community involvement. It is clear that Bosch want to dispose of the property as soon as possible after the closure.

"They also promised to 'Skill Match' employees with other employers in the area, to reduce the threat of unemployment."

Another Welsh delegation, led by AMs Rhodri Morgan and Jane Hutt, met Bosch managers for three hours on the same day.

Following their meeting, the Labour AM commented: "After discussions lasting three hours in Germany with Bosch chiefs, work force representatives and Unite Trade Union officials, we secured an agreement that Bosch would work together with the Welsh Assembly Government and work force representatives, to secure the best possible legacy for not only the current skilled workforce at the Vale plant, but also the supply chain companies, and future employment opportunities at the plant – and the use of the 330,000 square foot building complex."

(For more on Bosch, see Vale AM Jane Hutt's column on page 7)

HISTORY LECTURE

THE Cowbridge and District Local History Society's next lecture will be on Friday, March 5 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall, Cowbridge.

Jonathan Berry of CADW will speak on beaches, fields, streets and hills: World War 2 anti-invasion landscape of Cowbridge and its environs. Everyone welcome.

MONEY DAY Thursday March 4

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PROACT PARTNERSHIP HELPING TO MOVE WALES FORWARD...

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by *Jane Hutt AM* (Minister for Business and Budget)

OVER the past fortnight, we have held our 10th Welsh Assembly Government economic summit to take stock of the progress we have made in leading Wales out of the recession.

Gareth Jenkins, of FSG Tool and Die Ltd from Llantrisant, extolled the benefits of Proact, the uniquely Welsh scheme to provide a wage subsidy and funding for skills development in businesses across Wales, including companies in the Vale.

Gareth said that Proact had helped support his company in developing new products, markets and customers.

The Assembly Government intervention had helped keep redundancies to a minimum and prevented the company from having to introduce short time working for its staff, upskilling the workforce with the funding for training.

As well as extending the Proact scheme, which has helped more than 8,300 people remain in work, the deputy Minister for science, innovation and skills, Lesley Griffiths, also announced a new £15 million programme focusing on skills growth – designed to support and prepare businesses in Wales for the economic upturn and to ensure they are in a position to maximise opportunities in Wales.

David Rosser, CBI Wales Director said last week that it was hard for any government to stem the tide of recession, but Proact is a a good scheme and has been appreciated by lots of companies.

We intend to drive forward this partnership with business and trade unions who have been full and equal partners at the summit table over the past year.

This was the message Rhodri Morgan AM and I took to the BOSCH chiefs in Stuttgart last week alongside the workforce representatives from our Wales plant, to press for investment and to safeguard the interests of the highly skilled workforce drawn from the Vale and across the south east of Wales.

We made the point that Wales had invested £21million in developing this plant and they should consider keeping the factory open and using it for the next stage of alternator product development – or for other facets of the automotive industry, using our technical expertise and support from the automotive sector, government and academia in Wales.

We also pressed for consideration of retaining the skilled workforce for the manufacture of energy-efficient boilers (and we now have our own boiler scrappage scheme announced on February10), or for wind energy.

Sitting with us at the board table in Stuttgart was a representative from the BOSCH European Works Council, who welcomed our support for the workforce in Wales.

Our main message was to ask for BOSCH to develop a legacy for Wales as a demonstration of their corporate social responsibility commitment to the 900 people whose skills they will rely on over the next 18 months.

We can develop this in partnership, using the Team Wales approach, with React funding and Job Centre Plus; but also looking to the Sony experience with their Technium development, to help set up new work and business opportunities on the BOSCH site which can only be used for employment purposes, and the Burberry legacy of investment in social programmes in the Rhondda.

The representations will continue in partnership with the BOSCH workforce and plant management because that is the way we do business in Wales.

We should be smart enough in our small but clever country to maximise the opportunities and potential of our skilled workforce.

That message will also be reflected this week in our Public Services Summit, led by First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM, bringing together our public sector partners across local government and the health services, to work together to secure efficiencies and innovation in the way we deliver public services in Wales.

This will be achieved by working in partnership with our public sector workforce and their representatives.

Only a fortnight ago, there was a unanimous vote in the Assembly, across all parties, to trigger the start of plans to hold a referendum in Wales for more powers to be transferred to the Assembly from Westminster.

These powers would enable us to develop laws in Wales in the areas of policy that are already devolved, such as health and education, without having to put these proposals to the Houses of Parliament and the Secretary of State for consideration and approval.

There are 60 Assembly Members who serve Wales and we will be put to the test in asking the people of Wales to place their trust and confidence in us to secure these greater powers.

Leading up to St David's Day and the 11th year of this National Assembly for Wales, I hope we can demonstrate that we are making progress in serving Wales to the best of our ability, and we will continue to work to safeguard jobs and services in the public and private and voluntary sectors.

Government for the people and with the people...

BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

THE latest results from Barrivale are as follows:

Tuesday, February 16 – 1st, Jane Brook and Irene Thomas, 69.79 per cent; 2nd, Mike Close and Mick Green, 55.00; 3rd, Judith Owen and Marjorie Morgan, 51.25. Jane and Irene also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

All catered for!

CONGRATULATIONS to Llangan and St Mary Hill Community Hall committee on the outstanding success of their first venture, which took place on February 20.

All ages were catered for with soft background music for those romantics who wished to dance; and a pool table for the less romantic!

The children were also catered for and the hall committee is planning several more events for the summer months.

Postponed meeting

THE meeting scheduled to take place at the home of Mrs Iris Groom of St Mary Hill on February 20 was cancelled due to unforeseen problems.

St Canna's Church, Llangan

THE church will hold a family service on Sunday, February 28 at 11.15am.

There will be Eucharist on March 14 at 11.15am. Everyone welcome.

Pot holes

SOME, but not all of the pot holes on the Llangan road have been filled in – also the deep holes along Elasto Lane.

The work is extremely amateurish and there are many more still in need of repair.

Flood water continues to rise above the level of the road in Elasto Lane.

We welcome your news and views. Please email them to the Editorial Department at: ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk***

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COWBRIDGE JUNIOR RUGBY ROUND-UP

Dinas Powys offer stern opposition for under-10s

IN the opening match against Dinas Powys, the Cowbridge under-10s forwards were determined to compete against a strong pack.

Some good recycling of the ball allowed scrum-half Ioan Lewis to launch the back line for a series of impressive attacks, from one of which a loose pass was skillfully picked up by the quick-thinking Liam Murphy, who ran in for the opening try.

The Cowbridge forwards stepped up another gear and the 'two Maxes', Cunnington and Lucas, were outstanding in the loose.

Indeed, the next score resulted from hooker Max Lucas setting off on a typically determined drive into the heart of the opposition, from which a great offload to Bevan Howells, and a slick pass to the fleet-footed Evan Williams, resulted in another try.

The next two tries surprisingly both came from scrums. The first was the result of the observant scrum-half Ioan Lewis exploiting the blind side with a darting run to score.

That was followed by quick ball from another scrum with a pass to Bevan Howells, who tore his way through the defenders to take the score to 20-0 at half-time.

The Dinas boys probably had some stern words from their coaches at half-time, but strong drives from Max Cunnington, Sam Corkhill, Dan Marshall and a barnstorming run by Jac Roberts almost resulted in further scores.

Max Lucas entered the line and gave a precision pass to James Guard who nearly broke the second half deadlock, but it was the industrious Max Cunnington who stole possession from a maul and drove over the line to keep the scoreboard ticking over.

As the match drew to an end, a relieving kick from Dinas was charged down by Sam Corkhill, resulting in team mate Liam Murphy gratefully scooping up the ball for his second try and a final score of 30-0.

Development side on learning curve

The second fixture saw the development side take on a Dinas Powys team that contained the majority of boys from the first game, and therefore provided strong opposition.

Indeed, the strength of the Dinas Powys pack was evident early on with driving forward play and some fragile tackling, resulting in the visitors' opening try and, unfortunately, their second soon after.

However, the visitors' next assault was halted by a try-saving tackle by Dan Taylor. The Cowbridge boys took encouragement from this action and the 'Colwinston contingent' of Tom Jose, Patrick Shepherd, Dan Taylor and William Davies worked in harmony to work their way towards the opponents' half.

A pass to school mate, Angus James, resulted in a fine, meandering run by him which almost opened the Cowbridge account.

The gritty Dinas team were determined to not to concede any points but quick ruck ball and a pass to Rhys Davies resulted in the elusive winger running from his own half to score an inspirational try.

From a Dinas lineout, hooker William Davies launched himself at the opposition scrum-half with the resulting pressure from the 'two Doyles', Dylan and Josh, and a rampaging run by Dan Taylor, putting the visitors on the back foot.

From the ensuing maul, William then ripped the ball free and eyed a gap to dart through for a try, closing the gap to 10-15.

As in the first game, the Dinas team came out more determined in the second half. Early on, from a Cowbridge lineout, the ball was passed out to a static backline.

The visitors seized an opportunity to gain ground and scored the first of two early tries to widen the gap to 10-25.

Not to be outdone, a strong drive from a ruck by Dan Taylor and his pass to Rhys Davies resulted in a deserved second try for the winger. However,, the pendulum soon swung again and the visitors replied with two tries, one from a length of the field run which appropriately brought the curtain down on an entertaining game and a final score of 15-35.

Under-11s

Cowbridge under-11s entertained Dinas at the Bear Field and were comfortable winners by 82-0.

Conditions were heavy but the home team produced some scintillating rugby and were quickly off the mark when Dan Bunney scored an opportunist try from a quick pass from scrum-half Osian John.

Three further tries quickly followed from James Holder, Rhys Barnard and Cai Evans, before Dan Bunney scored his second with an excellent solo run.

Sound tackling by Tomos Evans-Williams and Toff Patel prevented a try by Dinas before Cowbridge struck back with an excellent forward charge from front row forward Joe Watts, who crashed over in the corner to extend the lead. Cowbridge led 40-0 at half-time with five of the six tries converted by Cai Evans.

The second half saw the home side make changes and immediately an excellent break by Charlie Pegrum resulted in a quick off-load to Osian John, who scored Cowbridge's seventh.

From the kick-off, Olly Rampling fielded a high ball before passing to Osian John who scored again.

Despite brave tackling from the visitors, Cowbridge scored another when Mikey Thomas set up an opportunity for second row Mathew Keating to force his way over.

From a good Sam John pass, Rhys Barnard scored his second and this was followed by a Seán Davies break, setting up a ruck from which James Holder scored again.

Good rucking by Josh Evans and Henry Jones led to clever forward inter-passing between Charlie Martin and James Waters, which resulted in Cowbridge's final try by Charlie Pegrum. All six tries in the second half were converted by Seán Davies (five) and Rhys Barnard (one).

ML

Vale surgeon opens up on Kilimanjaro charity climb

BRIDGEND surgeon Andy Thomas is putting his best foot forward – all the way to Kenya and the top of Mount Kilimanjaro!

Mr Thomas, who is a consultant urological surgeon at the Princess of Wales Hospital, is heavily involved in GLAZE – the Welsh prostate cancer charity. They are seeking to raise £1.1m to buy the first prostate cancer surgical robot in Wales.

Mr Thomas will be tackling the mountain to launch the appeal and is hoping to raise £10,000 in sponsorship.

He will be in good company, as he will be joined by 15 former Welsh sports captains on the hike, which takes place in September.

The event is being staged to raise money for GLAZE and also for non-smoking-related lung cancer.

Among those taking part are former Welsh rugby captains Jonathan Davies, Ieuan Evans and Bleddyn Bowen.

"Each of the 15 captains who are taking part can bring a guest and I will be Bleddyn's guest," said Mr Thomas.

"The event is being filmed by ITV Wales and we are one of the good causes being supported.

"We want to buy the robot to carry out prostate cancer surgery. While it will be controlled by surgeons, a robotic arm is much more flexible than a human wrist so it will be able to perform procedures more precisely."

The team will get into practice by climbing Snowdon on March 24. The climb will also support the Velindre Stepping Stones Appeal, which raises money for lung cancer research. This was started by Bridgend woman Mair ap Gruffydd.

Mr Thomas can be sponsored at www.justgiving.com/captainsclimbglaze

Can you give Joline a home?

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone: 01656 725219)

JOLINE is a sensitive 18-month-old Scottie Cross who lacks confidence in new situations and with strangers.

Joline.

She can be very reactive when worried and needs confident handling from her new owner. She gets on with other dogs and has lived with cats.

She is very bright and trainable, she is house-trained and fine to be left for a few hours, a spokeswoman reports.

"She needs an experienced owner, willing to continue socialising her. She needs calm, consistent and confident handling. She is not suitable around children.

"She can live with other dogs and would benefit from living with a calm, well socialised dog. She has lived with cats and could live with cats that are used to dogs.

The NFU Ladies elect new officers at AGM

THE NFU Ladies held their annual general meeting at Penllyn Village Hall on Tuesday, February 16.

A talk was given by Mr Alan Thorne on the life and achievements of Ivor Novello. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and a vote of thanks was given by June Studley.

Afterwards, the meeting commenced where a new committee was voted in. These were: Janet Rees (chairman); Janet Lewis (vice-chairman); Jill Rosser (secretary); Mary Llewellyn (treasurer); Beverley Lewis (tea hostess) and Helena Davies (press officer).

An NFU diary was raffled and raised £27.

The winners were: 1st prize, Richard Walker £25, 2nd, Julian Kelly £15, and 3rd, Margaret Edwards £10.

The outgoing chairman, Mary Llewellyn, chose Breast Cancer Wales as our recipient charity this year to receive £500 from funds raised in 2009.

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Due to a high level of interest in our scholarships we are now accepting applications until Friday 12th March. Our scholarships assessment day is on Saturday 13th March.

If education matters to you, and you feel that your child could benefit from the friendly family atmosphere in St Clare's School then please contact us for further information today.

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters brief and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

Why three to pick up litter?

MY wife and I often visit the promenade at Whitmore Bay, Barry Island, to enjoy the views; this area is extremely litter free, sand on the promenade is plentifully, be it washed up or blown up.

However, there is no litter. This is because of the fleet of council vans that travel up and down the promenade looking for orange bags to pick up.

The thing is that more often than not, there are three workers per van; the driver, the bag picker-upper and the third person?

Surely, just one council worker, the driver, would do – freeing up the others to carry out cleaning duties within the town?

Moreover, when there aren't any more orange bags to pick up, why can't the three occupants of the van sweep and shovel the sand that's on the promenade back onto the beach?

John Gillette, Barry

'Praise for our litter picker!'

LITTER, litter everywhere – was the headline in The GEM letters-extra last week – and this headline could have been describing Broad Street in Barry with its numerous takeaways.

However, the Vale Council is very fortunate to have the most wonderful litter picker, who works extremely hard very early in the morning to keep this area clean and tidy.

I do not know his name, but invariably see him most mornings cleaning up after the night before.

I want to take this opportunity to thank him and acknowledge his hard work in the Broad Street area.

Lynda Banks, Barry

Thank you, Rotarians!

MAY I, through your excellent newspaper, on behalf of Longmeadow Court Residents' Group, sincerely thank members of Cowbridge Rotary Club and their wives for all the kindness they extend to us during their monthly visit.

Each month, we have a social evening where speakers give a talk or show slides about an interesting topic. This is then followed by light refreshments served by the members. It is always a pleasant occasion, and we really look forward to them coming.

Just to let you know, Rotarians, how much you are cherished and appreciated by us all.

George Sutcliffe (Chairperson)

LIFT in the Vale

VOLUNTARY organisation LIFT (Life Is For Today) a self-help group for those affected by breast cancer. offers support and friendship to people in the Vale.

On alternate Wednesdays, relaxation therapies such as Reiki, reflexology and Indian head massage, will be offered from 10am-1pm.

On other Wednesdays in the month, there will be visits out, or speakers, which usually take place in the afternoon from 2pm-4 pm.

The next LIFT group meetings will be in Cowbridge on Wednesday March 3 and March 31, between10am-1pm.

Contact Hilary on 01446 749756 or Anne on 01446 772843 for further information.

Not surprised by public apathy over PACT meetings

I RECENTLY received a letter from the Vale Council concerning alley gates and telephoned the number on the letter to discuss its contents with a helpful and enthusiastic lady.

She stressed the importance of community members attending PACT meetings to put their views forward and give feedback to the council and police on such matters.

I had not previously attended such a meeting, but decided that, in view of what I had been told, I should begin to participate in the process.

I read in The GEM that the next meeting of Buttrills PACT – my ward – would be held at Barry Library on February 10 at 6.30pm.

Consequently, on a bitterly cold evening, I arrived at the library at approximately 6.20pm.

All entrances to the library were closed...

After walking back and forth retrying all of its doors for several minutes, but seeing no notice regarding cancellation or postponement of the meeting, I began to think that I had misread the date upon which it was to be held – until I noticed another gentleman also vainly rattling the locked portals.

He confirmed that I had not misread the date, so we waited until well after 6.30pm for any sign of activity, before abandoning our quest.

The following day, I telephoned the number given in The GEM for *"more information"*.

This proved pointless and a further waste of my time, as there was only a recorded message, which contained no information regarding the holding (or abandonment!) of PACT meetings.

The council and police stress the importance of PACT meetings and we are led to believe that they would like more members of the community to participate as they are often poorly attended.

If my initial experience is anything to go by, is the public's apathy any wonder?

Are more community members genuinely wanted at these meetings, or are the organisers a little worried about too many awkward questions being asked – and while paying lip service to the ideal, pursuing a secret agenda to deter people from attending?

KJ Gandy, Barry

Dolphins or porpoises?

I WONDER if any readers of The GEM were on Barry Island beach on Tuesday, February 16 around 11am - noon?

My family were dog-walking when we saw huge numbers of either dolphins or porpoises swimming around in the bay – only 50 or so metres from the water's edge.

We watched for over half an hour and are keen to know if anyone else saw this amazing sight and know whether it was either dolphins or porpoises?

Mrs A Thomas, Barry

I don't believe it!

YES, McDonalds *are* popular but should we blame them for the rubbish we drop?

I'm surprised Carolyn Veal Shaw (GEM Letters, February 18) thinks that way. It reflects more on the public than McDonalds.

A Rees, Sully

Horse riders do NOT want it all!

WITH reference to recent letters in The GEM, I would not condone taking horses onto a crowded beach, or dogs, unless on a lead.

I accept that non-horsey people might find horse poo offensive; however, it is only vegetable matter and not dangerous.

How are we expected to clear up, is it suggested riders carry a shovel and carrier bags, then dismount and pick it up, leave the horse unattended, or perhaps ask a passer-by to hold the reins while doing so?

We don't "want it all", just somewhere safe to ride off the roads.

In the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan, there are only 16 miles of bridleways. Now that is a disgrace – whereas there are 309 miles of footpaths for people to enjoy and walk their dogs.

So who's being unfair?

Mrs V Pritchard, Dinas Powys
(BHS bridleways officer)

'Keep dogs on a lead in public'

I'M writing in response to a letter about dogs on leads in public places.

I agree with the horse owner that all dogs should be on leads at all times.

I am a dog owner and our family dog is a Staffordshire Bull Terrier, which I often walk around Cadoxton and sometimes over the Island.

Almost every time I go out walking with my dog in the park or at the Island, there are many dogs off the lead running free – and running up to my dog barking and biting! The last incident took place on February 17 at Cadoxton park.

Luckily enough, my dog is a Staffordshire Bull Terrier and too brave to respond to untrained dogs barking at him.

I'm sure people would have something to say if my dog was off the lead, so I keep it on a lead to avoid any fights or hassle...

And so should all the other dog owners.

The council should make it compulsory in public places, such as beaches and parks.

Adrian Knott, Barry

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Plan to mitigate effect of cash office closures

Council to extend its services at libraries

IN THE wake of protests over the closure of cash offices in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth, the Vale Council is planning to make more services available at libraries.

A council spokeswoman said that the aim was to provise more face-to-face contact opportunities for Vale residents.

She said: "Following a successful pilot at Cowbridge Library between July and December 2009, the council is now set to develop its extended information service.

"It will now be made permanent and expanded to include Llantwit Major and Penarth libraries, with the remaining Vale libraries following over the course of the year."

The changes are being introduced as part of the council's 'OneVale' programme, which aims to improve access to services and the efficiency of how services are delivered.

Services to be offered at libraries include:

* information on all council services.
* refuse and recycling bags and boxes.
* recycling and refuse collection calendars.
* missed refuse and recycling reports.
* job application packs.
* Telecare application packs.

Residents will be able to pay their bills at a range of outlets throughout the Vale.

More than 80 outlets offer Post Office, PayPoint or Payzone facilities and residents can pay wherever the PayPoint or Payzone sign is displayed.

The spokeswoman said: "To make a payment you'll need to remember to take along your council payment card or barcoded bill.

"If you don't have a council tax or rent payment card you can call our contact centre, Contact OneVale, on 01446 700111 to request one.

" Details of your nearest payment location are available on our website or by calling Contact OneVale."

She added that the Contact OneVale centre (01446 700111) could advise on other methods of payment, including doing so by cheque or by setting up a direct debit. to make payments.

For information on the new services, visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or for any enquiries call 01446 700111.

Boys Brigade in pin bowling championships

TWO teams of three boys took part in the Welsh 10-Pin Bowling Championships at Rhondda Bowl against teams from Cardiff, Penarth, Caerphilly, Newport and Swansea.

The first team, who are the current national champions, were out to retain the Welsh title they won last year.

It was not to be. The contest was won by the 31st Cardiff Company with the Llantwit boys a close second and Swansea third.

Better luck next time, boys!

ANDY WELLSBURY

St Athan Reserves are kitted out for the season

ABOVE:
St Athan Reserves are being sponsored by Rob Lloyd, of Green Future landscapers, who has provided them with a new kit for the current season.

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR
Your local correspondent is
Patricia Bevan-Morgan
(telephone 01656 880418)

LOCAL boy Adam Howell, of Meadow Court, St Brides Major, entered the Gibraltar Chess championships while visiting his uncle, and won the under-18 section; he was presented with a trophy and certificate.

Adam completed his successful weekend by celebrating his 16th birthday. He is a member of the Bridgend Chess club and has represented Wales.

Congratulations to David Blott of Ogmore-by-Sea and Nicola Luff of Stroud on their engagement.

All good wishes to them for their future happiness together.

THE owner of Labradors Larki Style and Larki Boy would like to thank Maggie McPherson of Ogmore-by-Sea, for the delightful poem she has written about the two dogs while watching the owner training them at Ogmore-by-Sea.

It has given her great pleasure. The dogs, who have won prizes throughout the land, will be taking part in the Labrador Retriever Club of Wales competition on May bank holiday at Sherebourne Castle.

THE Gymanfa Ganu/Songs of Praise which took place on Sunday at the All Saints Church, in Southerndown, was a huge success.

It was followed by a celebration of the birthday of Priest in Charge, the Venerable Philip Morris, who now receives his bus pass, of which he is very proud!

ST BRIDES Major Mothers' Union Eucharist will take place on Friday, February 26, at All Saints Church, Southerndown.

THE local produce market held on Saturday, February 20, at the Church Hall, was once again a huge success, with numerous stalls.

The market is to be held on the third Saturday of every month. The next one is Saturday, March 20 (10.20am-12.30pm).

Police magazine's apology to Chief Constable

THE *Police Review* magazine has apologised to the South Wales Police Chief Constable, Peter Vaughan following a recent interview.

It stated that the report had indicated Mr Vaughan could not do his shopping himself for security reasons.

"We now accept that Mr Vaughan did not say this and that our report was based on a misunderstanding by us," the apology read.

A donation was being made to South Wales Police Youth Trust (a charity helping young people in south Wales) plus a contribution towards Mr Vaughan's legal costs.

Mr Vaughan said: "I am pleased that the matter has been resolved satisfactorily."

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NEWS FROM PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

ON A COLD DAY, PANORAMIC VIEWS FROM TOR Y FOEL...

RECENTLY, 11 walkers joined their leader Barrie Mortimer at Penarth on a cold but dry morning and headed up to the village of Talybont-on-Usk, which nestles in the valley beside the Brecon canal.

During its industrial past, the village was once the home of the Talybont Wharf, and sitting neatly in a field behind the canal is a row of fine limekilns as a reminder.

Setting out along the bank of the canal, which was frozen over, they crossed the bridge behind the White Hart pub, joined part of the Taff Trail and, climbing gently, reached the Brinore Tramroad

Brinore is the anglicised name of the Bryn Oer Tramroad (meaning cold hill) which linked Talybont-on-Usk to Trefil and was opened in 1815. Running for eight miles (13km) it was a horse-worked narrow gauge tramway linking Tredegar ironworks to the Trefil limestone quarries and the Brecon/Monmouth Canal and dropped 330-metres (1,110-ft) along its route.

It carried coal from the Rhymney Valley to mid-Wales and limestone from the southern quarries for agricultural use, and was eventually closed in 1865 because most freight was then being carried by steam train.

Reaching the ridge just below Tor y Foel, the group stopped for coffee under cloudy skies with sunny spells.

They gazed across the Talybont reservoir below them, to the picturesque peaks of Allt Lwyd, Twyn Du and the snow-capped Waun Rydd, with the familiar oval shape of the stone cairn at Carn Pica in the foreground.

Then it was time for the group to do some work as they progressed gradually uphill to the cold, blustery summit of Tor y Foel that is marked by a small stone cairn. From the top, they had panoramic views of the surrounding countryside and the central Beacons range and away to the north, the peaks and ridges of the Black Mountains.

Glad to move on in order to get warm, the group began to descend the opposite side of the mountain towards Cwmcrawnon, but veered off in a northwest direction and joined part of the Usk Valley Walk. This lovely picturesque long distance footpath stretches for 48 miles (77km) starting at Caerleon and ending at Brecon town.

A few kilometres ahead, they left the Usk Valley Walk in order to make their way to Craig Danywenallt ,and climbing up to the top, they found themselves standing in an ancient hill fort at 356 metres.

Stopping for liquid refreshment, they were also able to drink in the beautiful surrounding views before the leader declared it was all downhill back to Talybont-on-Usk, which at that stage in the walk went down a treat!

On February 27, meet at 9.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 7-mile mod/hard walk at Ton Pentre (please note this walk has a long steep climb at the start) contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On February 28, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for an 8-mile moderate walk at Wenvoe, St Lythans and Dyffryn; contact Val W. on 01446 734925.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

ON THE RIDGE BELOW TOR y FOEL.

Ty Hafan lottery draw

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 606.

● **£2000:** 865261.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £3,000, was not claimed this week.**

● **£10:** 465871; 866144; 704087; 553578; 662115; 617437; 330231; 681292; 489619; 211941; 890714; 521532; 589004; 289734; 855050; 750557; 430367; 556550; 517604; 265832.

● **£5:** 758023; 761674; 427611; 118341; 769526; 537021; 577700; 161270; 424931; 568598; 409332; 308284; 619668; 320560; 475076; 609567; 638098; 106213; 523337; 221111; 648395; 733158; 137155; 415689; 155185; 760419; 300150; 821731; 531966; 415948; 342727; 875871; 561249; 478477; 322515; 147304; 778167; 715843; 477472; 218142; 290065; 315837; 126891; 526296; 684464; 511978; 188653; 230811; 221347; 881953; 775856; 449423; 664739; 404923; 867918; 790169; 649256; 947914; 817755; 256130.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

TENOVUS COFFEE

THE Friends of Tenovus, Dinas Powys branch, are holding a coffee and Welsh cakes morning in aid of Tenovus funds, on Saturday (February 27) in the Parish Hall, Dinas Powys, at 10.30am-noon. Cost £2.

LENTEN LUNCHES

LENTEN lunches are being held in All Saints' Church Hall, Park Road, Barry, every Thursday during Lent, from 12noon-1.30pm.

The last Lenten lunch will be on Thursday, March 25. The cost is £4 and everyone is welcome.

'Please buy Fairtrade' – shoppers urged

LOCAL shoppers are being urged to buy Fairtrade products during Fairtrade Fortnight February 22-March 7) by the Vale's Labour candidate Alana Davies.

"Small changes in our shopping habits can make a big difference to the world's poorest people. By buying food, gifts and other products from developing countries, we will help grow their economies and reduce poverty.

"When consumers and retailers here in the Vale act together to promote and buy goods from developing countries, we can make a real difference to the lives of many people in developing countries," Ms Davies stressed.

Once the switch to digital TV begins on Wednesday 3 March you'll need to re-tune (or install) your Freeview TV or box.* Then on 31 March you'll need to re-tune again to complete switchover. Satellite and cable TV viewers will not be affected.

It's good practice to re-tune from time to time to carry on viewing all available channels.

For a simple guide to re-tuning, call us on 08456 50 50 50 (English language)
or 08458 48 48 48 (Welsh language)
or visit digitaluk.co.uk/retuning

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*Includes BT Vision or Tag Up TV equipment.
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Barry College - Celebrating half a century at the heart of the Vale.

Barry College is celebrating 50 years of its life and work at the heart of the community in the Vale. Each month in the Gem, Barry College will be looking back over the last 50 years – with memories and photographs from past students, staff and local residents. To look at photographs of College life from the last 50 years, log on to our Facebook page 'I ❤ BARRY'. To contribute memories, photographs or register as a past student or staff member, contact us by email: 50years@barry.ac.uk or tel: 01446 725015

"I remember..."
Roger Dimond, past summer school student and son of a founding member of Barry College staff.

"I left Barry in my early twenties but have quite a few connections with Barry College.

"The first Principal of Barry College, Arnold James, was my geography teacher at the Boys' Grammar School - I believe he moved to the College when the Grammar School moved from Barry Road to Port Road. John Cooper, the first Vice Principal at the College, taught me maths at the Grammar School and I assume made the same move at the same time.

"My father, Lionel Dimond was one of the founding members of staff, having forsaken uncertain employment in ship repair on the docks for a brighter future in further education. He was employed at the College as an engineering technician and later promoted to lecturer after achieving his City & Guilds National Certificate by correspondence course. Dad retired in 1979 and now 96, is still living in Barry.

"When I was a student at Cardiff Art College from 1960 to 1965 I spent one summer holiday working as a labourer, helping to extend the College's engineering workshops. Some years later I attended the Barry Summer School - an annual event that brought an influx of top creative talent and students from all over the world, to the town. This was based at the Colcot Road site and what was then the teacher training college off College Hill, which is now College Fields Nursing Home. I took the Optical Art course run by Michael Kidner and Jeff Steele, two artists of international repute. The Optical Art course took place in a terrapin - one of the temporary classrooms that graced every school and college in the land at a time when student numbers outpaced accommodation.

"I am delighted that you are putting so much effort into celebrating the golden anniversary of the College whose many strands are interwoven with my family's life over three generations. Congratulations on your fiftieth!"

The Optical Art Summer School 1965
L to R: Jaqui Simmonds, Michael Kidner, Stewart (surname unknown), Roger Dimond, Jeffrey Steele

Roger's father, Lionel Dimond, retired in 1979 and is pictured here with Principal Arnold James.

Do you have a special memory or story about Barry College?
Do you have any photographs of Barry College taken over the years?

Whether a past student, member of staff, friend of the College or local resident – we all share in the College's heritage.

All those who contribute photographs or written memories will receive a thank you letter and commemorative gift.

Barry College will assume the consent of all those who appear in any photographs and written statements contributed relating to the College and its 50th celebrations, for use on the Barry College website, marketing materials and related media coverage. By contributing images/statements, you are agreeing to grant Barry College a royalty free licence to publish, edit and use such materials for the purposes stated above.

'SADNESS' AS HOTEL SHUTS ITS DOORS

Egerton Grey closure is blow for Vale tourism

ONE of the Vale's premier hotels, the 17th century Egerton Grey Hotel at Porthkerry, has ceased trading.

The hotel, which has views of the coast, has been described as "a luxurious country house hotel only 20 minutes from Cardiff, set in seven acres of gardens and only a short stroll to the coast".

A signpost on the main Barry to Rhoose road directing people to Egerton Grey has been removed, and a notice on the gate refers callers to a company in Cardiff.

A spokesman for Doyle Davies, insolvency practitioners, said: "The hotel closed for trading on Sunday, February 14. We are currently putting together a report, and there will be a creditors meeting on March 4."

A liquidator is likely to be named at that meeting.

Local councillor Jeff James said: "I'm deeply saddened to learn of the closure of Egerton Grey, not least because of the staff who have been there for many years, and are well known by the locals.

"It is an important tourist asset for the Vale and I hope some progress can be made on the property."

Plaid Cymru parliamentary candidate for the Vale, Dr Ian Johnson, said: "I am very saddened to hear of Egerton Grey closing and I hope that the business can be turned around and re-opened.

"It has been a difficult period for the hotel business, but the Vale needs to maintain its reputation as a quality location.

"Located close to the airport, close to Cardiff and yet in a relaxed and rural setting, it would be a great shame to lose this excellent facility for good."

ABOVE: Grandeur in the Vale – but just a few days ago, Egerton Grey was forced to close its doors.

Southerndown ladies golf day

-ON Friday, February 12, the ladies of Southerndown held a Valentine's fun competition.

It was played over 12 holes and Caroline Kelly was right on target on both the par-3s. With heart-shaped balloons to aim for, she was closest to the pin on both.

The first prize went to Jean Broughton and the team event was won by Cath Jewell, Fiona Cater and Mary Rawlings.

VALE WINE CIRCLE

THE Vale Wine Circle meets on the first Tuesday of the month in Llantwit Leisure Centre at 8pm.

A spokesman said: "We are a sociable group who enjoy wine, and would welcome new members.

"The next meeting is on March 2, when we will be having a wine whist quiz."

Council replies to readers' concerns on litter in the Vale

FOLLOWING the letters published in the February 11 and 18 editions of the Glamorgan GEM, it is apparent that there is a need to provide your readers with a response to some of the concerns raised about litter in the Vale.

The council carries out its legal duty to keep the land under its control clear of litter and refuse, in accordance with the Welsh Assembly Government's Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse and Associated Guidance 2007.

This code, which is applicable to all Welsh local authorities, sets the standards of cleanliness that are acceptable in terms of keeping land free from litter.

Our performance against these standards is independently checked by Keep Wales Tidy, on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government and their findings reported by the Minister responsible for Local Environmental Quality.

Keep Wales Tidy's latest key finding for the Vale shows that we have improved our street cleansing and have an overall level of cleanliness that compares favourably with the all-Wales average.

They also report that we have been successful in sweeping streets to high levels of cleanliness and that our litter picking is very evident throughout the area.

The results for Cowbridge show that streets surveyed, including Bridge Road and Church Hill Close, were Grade B+ and Mill Park Grade A. All others surveyed were Grade B.

These grades relate to the streets being predominantly free of litter, apart from small items, and in the case of Grade A, having no litter whatsoever.

The acceptable grade within the Code of Practice is Grade B, which is the level of cleanliness considered to be achievable by a local authority meeting its duty to keep relevant land clean.

In addition to this, we have a number of enforcement staff whose role it is to enforce against litter, graffiti, dog fouling and fly-tipping offences.

The enforcement team also visits schools to work with students in carrying out litter clean ups at the schools and their surrounding areas, as well as working closely with the council's youth offending service to clean up littered areas that aren't the council's responsibility.

To provide a service in excess of what we currently offer would require additional funding well beyond what is currently available.

One resident's letter featured a suggestion that litter problems in the Vale were caused in part by material escaping from our collection vehicles.

While I accept that the arrangements for some of our recycling collections, particularly cardboard and plastic, can give rise to an increase in litter I totally refute the suggestion that this happens after the material is transferred to one of our vehicles.

We are currently piloting a new plastic sack in some areas of the Vale to tackle the problem with cardboard and plastics which could prove to be, in part, a solution to this.

It's with regret that I assure GEM readers that evidence shows the vast amount of litter on our street is generated by members of the public.

We all want to see a cleaner, higher quality environment, but to achieve this residents, visitors and local authorities must work together to influence this throw-away culture.

The council will continue to do its best within the resources available to comply with our legal duty and to meet the expectations of our residents.

Clifford Parish, Vale Council,
Operational Manager Waste Management and Cleansing
Rheolwr Gwaith Rheoli Gwastraff a Glanhau

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your news and views on this and any other local topic. Please email them to:
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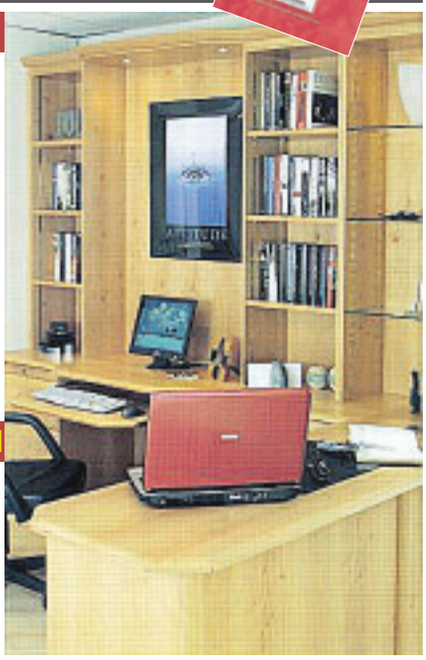

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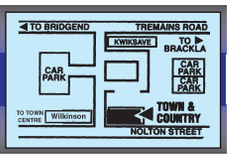

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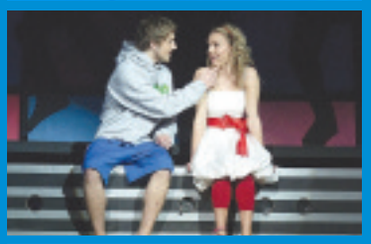

Disgrifiwyd yr ysgol mewn arolwg yn Nhachwedd 2008 fel ysgol ag iddi amryw o nodweddion rhagorol, yn cynnwys addysgu rhagorol, ymddygiad gwych y disgyblion; arweinyddiaeth fyrlymus ynghyd â chanlyniadau ardderchog.

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LATEST NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

One winter hive suffers a sad bee-reavement!

WE are now well into February and as yet there is not much activity at the apiary.

On January 28, I did look under the crown boards on all of the hives, and of the seven hives in the apiary, one hive has died out. This is due to starvation.

When the hives are prepared for winter they are reduced down as follows: a base, then a brood-box, a shallower box known as a super, a crown-board and a roof.

The two boxes are the living quarters for the bees throughout the winter, each box has food in it and in essence this will provide for the bees until spring arrives and outside forage is available.

The bees in this case have consumed the food contained in the bottom box but have not moved into the upper box, where plenty of food still exists.

Many of the dead bees are in the wax cells. They are head down and their rear ends are protruding. This indicates to me that they have been searching for food and obviously did not find any.

A great many of the dead bees are on the floor of the hive, with their tongues protruding, which further indicates to me that starvation is the cause of this hive's demise.

I have put some of the dead bees aside for examination and will be looking for evidence of internal parasites, which could also be present.

The loss of a hive/hives during the winter is not at all unusual, as some hives are not best prepared for this period.

Left to themselves, the bees would ensure that they were. It is invariably the beekeeper that lets the bees down.

Spring is coming, bringing with it the hope of pleasanter days when the bees will be flying, and a full examination of each hive can be made. Given good weather and external forage, the numbers within each hive will expand rapidly.

As the season advances, this population increase can be put to good use, and a competent beekeeper should be able to split one or two hives to increase stocks and so make up for winter losses.

It is most encouraging to note the numbers of new beekeepers who have attended the evening classes given by the Cardiff, the Valleys and the Vale association.

Not all of these new beekeepers will have bees, but it is the intention of the association to initiate a Queen-rearing programme, which will not only improve our existing stocks of bees, but will hopefully provide the newcomers with a nucleus of bees (small hive) so that the knowledge imparted by way of the evening classes can be converted to the practical side of beekeeping.

Come March 27, there is a beekeepers' convention to be held at the Royal Welsh Showground in Builth-Wells.

Many suppliers of beekeeping equipment: tools, suits, gloves, wax, etc will be present, and lectures will be given throughout the day.

Aspiring beekeepers should, if at all possible attend this gathering as much valuable information is to be had along with useful future contacts.

As a footnote, the Dyffryn Gardens Apiary is now well established and who knows, a crop of honey may well result from this enterprise this year.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Llantrisant store's staff hand cheque to Ty Hafan

LEEKES has presented a cheque for £2,000 to the Ty Hafan children's hospice.

The charity was nominated by staff at Leekes' Llantrisant store and the majority of the £2,000 was raised through donations from customers visiting Leekes' Santa's grotto during the Christmas period.

Ty Hafan's corporate partnerships development coordinator, Stacey Brewster, collected the cheque from Leekes' company secretary, Stuart Leeke, and said: "This is a fantastic donation from Leekes and we'd like to say a huge thank you to all staff and customers at the Llantrisant store.

"Ty Hafan is not part of the NHS and receives no guaranteed statutory funding, so just to tread water it has to raise millions of pounds every year, and inevitably that cost will rise.

"The £2,000 from Leekes will go a long way towards helping to provide our unique service, free of charge, to families in Wales who need us. This donation is very much appreciated."

Stuart Leeke presents the cheque to Ty Hafan's Stacey Brewster.

Alpha course

A 10-WEEK Alpha course starts in St Hilary village hall on Thursday, March 25 at 7.15pm (for 7.30pm).

Each evening starts with a meal, followed by a short talk and time for discussion.

There will be no charge for the course, which will explore and discuss aspects of the Christian faith.

For tickets and further information, telephone Lynn and Bruce Rankine on 01446 775717.

Articles For Sale

LEEKES VICTORIAN STYLE CONSERVATORY. In perfect condition (11ftx11.5ft). Buyer to dismantle and remove, cost over £8,000. Price for quick sale - £500. Tel: 01446 760656 (Evenings). **(09)**

JCB 38cc PETROL CHAINSAW. 40cm bar, Still in box - £95. **HINARI STAINLESS STEEL EAITRONIC, MICROWAVE** Still in box - £40. Tel: 01656 789096. **(09)**

STAIRLIFT, almost new £500. **SCOOTER** 'Shoprider' and **WHEELCHAIR** - £500 for both. **BATHMASTER,** new, £200. Tel.01656 890489. **(09)**

BROWN TWEED EFFECT SOFA BED as new cost £1,000, sell for £470 ono. Tel: 01446 751651. **(09)**

RALEIGH FOLDING BIKE Sturmley Archer gears, 20 inch wheels, garaged - £40 Tel: 0772 8420360. **(09)**

TRAILER, 2 wheels, 4ft 6in x 3ft x18in - £50 Tel: 01446 773163 **(09)**

M&S SOFA BED Two seater, modern, immaculate condition, gold/cream £250 ono. Tel: 07765 226107 or 07771 371513. **(08)**

PAIR OF CURTAINS Lined, blue and yellow, 92 inch x 84 inch drop £22. Tel: 01446 740817. **(08)**

TWO SINGLE adjustable beds, as new. £350 for both. Tel: 01656 788787. **(08)**

PROFITNESS Exercise rower, 6 months old £45 ono. Tel: 01446 794732. **(08)**

14" PHILLIPS Combi TV/video (silver). 14" Sony TV, black. £25 each. Tel: 07835 979548. **(08)**

ANTIQUE PINE FURNITURE, TV corner unit, £150; medium/large blanket box, £100. Tel. 01446 775975. **(07)**

BOXES OF ASSORTED VIDEOS, 40 per box. £10 per box. Tel 07791 547872. (07)

VICTORIAN OAK PEDESTAL DESK, the inset tooled leather, moulded edge top with rounded corners above nine drawers around a central knee hole on plinth base. 60inches by 31 inches. Valued at £1,800, sell for £750. Tel. 01446 736162. **(07)**

THREE-PIECE SUITE. Blue, Duresta, cost £4,500, will take £99, very good condition. Tel. 07789 182790. **(07)**

THREE-PIECE M&S SUITE £150; small cane conservatory settee £50. Both terracotta and cream colour. Two 4-drawer bedroom chests £25 each. All excellent condition. Tel. 01446 796274. **(07)**

SEWING MACHINE, Proelectric, small, light weight, £22.50 ono. Bonsai Pots. 6 small to medium, one large plus tray, £12.50 ono. Tel. 01446 794822 **(07)**

HAND BUILT RALEIGH RANDONNEUR. Lightweight with Shimano brakes and gears (18-speed), hardly used, £395. Tel. 01446 781272. **(07)**

EU REHA BATHLIFT. As new, £250 ono. Tel. 01656 750752. **(06)**

VIBROSTATION TRAINING PLATE. Professional training plate, hardly used, 10 months old, as new, cost £900, sell £450 ono. Unable to use due to disability. Dell 27inch Ultrasharp PC Monitor, hardly used, as new, £350 ono. Jiyam 24inch PC Monitor, as new, £120 ono. Tel. 01446 407354. **(06)**

ALSTON BEDROOM FURNITURE. 2 single wardrobes, 1 seven drawer chest, 1 three drawer chest, light wood with decorative panels and handles. £100 ono. Tel. 01446 404166. **(06)**

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Public Notices

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

IN BANKRUPTCY

HEREFORD COUNTY COURT

No. 458 of 2009 **RE: DAVID COLIN HENRY,** a benefits manager, residing at 63 Walkers Green, Marden, Hereford, HR1 3EB, formerly residing at Tregelana, Mount Road, Groes Pewis, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 4DG and formerly trading in partnership with another as a management consultant.

A bankruptcy order was made against David Colin Henry on 7 December 2009.

NOTE:- All debts due to the bankrupt should be paid to me.

AG Nash
Official Receiver
1st Floor, Southgate House
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Ceremony will remember 'One of most influential Welshmen of the 20th Century'

Gwynfor Evans to be honoured in Barry

ON SUNDAY a bronze bust of Barry-born Gwynfor Evans – one of the most influential Welshmen of the 20th century – is to be unveiled in the County Library in the town.

Gwynfor Evans, who died in 2005, was Plaid Cymru's first member of parliament,

He was born in 1912, the son of Dan Evans, a businessman in Barry – whose shop became the main department store in the town until 2006.

Mr Evans was educated in Gladstone Road Primary School and then in Barry Boys' School, or Barry County School as it was known then.

He went on to study law at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and then at Oxford University, although he decided in the end to become a market gardener in Carmarthenshire.

A pacifist and devout Christian, he declared himself a conscientious objector during the Second World War.

He was a central figure in the unsuccessful battle to prevent the flooding of the Tryweryn Valley to create a reservoir for Liverpool.

He became President of Plaid Cymru in 1945 and was elected as Plaid Cymru's first Member of Parliament in 1966 at a Carmarthen by-election.

After initially breaking its promise to establish S4C, the u-turn by Margaret Thatcher's Government has been attributed to Mr Evans' threat to start a hunger strike.

The bronze bust was commissioned by a small committee formed by Mrs Gwenno Huws, former deputy head at Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc, Barry.

ABOVE: The bronze bust of Gwynfor Evans.

Mrs Huws explained: "It pained me to see that there was nothing whatsoever in Barry to remember one of the town's most well-known sons and one of Wales' leading statesmen.

"When I retired in July last year, I saw my chance to do something about it so I set about establishing a fund to raise money for a fitting memorial to him. I'm very grateful to Mr Alcwyn Deiniol, Mr Geraint Evans, Mr Dulyn Griffith and Mrs Mai Marley for all their support."

Mr Geraint Evans, Gwynfor Evan's nephew, who has been a campaigner for Welsh medium education in the Vale and is chair of the governors of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, said he was delighted that his uncle was being recognised and with the location of the bust.

"I am extremely pleased and proud there will now be a permanent memorial to Gwynfor in Barry.

"I was honoured to have been part of this project and am most grateful to Gwenno Huws for initiating the appeal, and also to the Vale Council for so readily agreeing for the bust to be sited in the library, where it will be easily accessible to all."

Mr Evans said 30 family members would be attending the ceremony.

"My late father Alcwyn Evans was marginally younger than Gwynfor, but when they lived in Barry they did a lot together – before the Second World War they even travelled the continent, a great adventure in those days.

"My father was a great admirer of what my uncle achieved, and would have been thrilled to be there on Sunday."

Mr Dulyn Griffith, the head teacher at Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc, said "We never would have guessed that we would achieve our objective within a year. The committee is proud to see our dream become reality and that Gwynfor has some fitting recognition at last."

The unveiling, which is an invitation only event, will be carried out by Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas, President of the National Assembly for Wales.

He said: "As a recent arrival in the Vale, I am particularly honoured to be able to unveil this memorial in the town where he was born and brought up.

"It is wonderful that Barry has seen extremely successful Welsh medium schools established. No doubt the lively and varied commercial and social life of Barry influenced Gwynfor's classless view of society and his strong principles of equality."

The noted Llanuwchllyn sculptor John Meirion Morris, well known for his Celtic and African-inspired images, received the commission to create the bronze bust.

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Glamorgan GEM

Food for Thought

Llanmaes pub restaurant offers a warm welcome

...with old and new favourites plus a few tasty surprises!

DINING REVIEW... THE BLACKSMITH'S ARMS by PHILIP IRWIN

ONE long-established tradition in the Vale of Glamorgan is that of dining out in a country pub – and the variety of fare on offer is surely one of the area's real plus points.

So, for any young couple starting out with such a pub, the first thing to decide is which sector of the market you target. Up-market haute cuisine, or good hearty pub grub?

Michael and Jackie Poole, who have been in charge at the Blacksmith's Arms in Llanmaes for several months now, were pretty clear about placing the pub's restaurant firmly between those two extremes, and therefore the emphasis is on good quality local food, well cooked and with a menu made up of the chef's creations and with a sprinkling of old favourites.

When I visited, the pub was busy, and the first impression was of a very traditional establishment, with the darts team in mid-game as you walked through the door.

The restaurant, however, is set back from the bar, and it is a comfortable spot to settle in at your table and look over the menu and the wine list.

One encouraging first impression is that the wine list is reasonably priced, with plenty of bottles around the £12 mark, and a good mix of wines from around the globe.

With around eight starters to choose from, I went for the Raglan Pork Pie, which includes Caerphilly cheese, leeks, chicken breast and mustard (as well as the pork) – and this turned out to be a good choice, although the generous portion meant that I would be struggling later!

ABOVE: Michael and Jackie Poole.

My colleague was keen to try the home-made soup of the day (vegetable) and she cleared the large bowl, declaring it an excellent example of a soup that clearly had the hallmark of the chef's personal touch.

She went for a traditional pub favourite as her main course too, choosing a steak and Guinness pie, which was generous with chunks of beef, onions and mushrooms, and which comes with a covering of crisp pastry.

The various steak main courses were tempting, but I chose the cod loin wrapped in pancetta, which came with asparagus and lemon mayonnaise, and this was a good dish.

The only (minor) criticism I could find was that the pancetta was overpowered by the fish – something I had not expected.

I should add that both main courses came with fresh vegetables and with really good hand-cut chips - although diners can choose to have new potatoes, or mashed or jacket or Daupinoise instead!

When it came to dessert, I was slightly regretting starting with the pork pie, but my colleague was keen to try the chocolate mallow pie (chocolate with pieces of marshmallow) which came with a generous scoop of the Blacksmith's Arms featured ice cream, Wild Fig, which is made just down the road in Bonvilston.

At £3.45, this pudding was great value and great tasting as well – and there are several other very tempting offerings in the dessert menu.

Judging by the numbers eating on the Thursday night that we visited, word is getting around about the new regime at the Blacksmith's – and good word of mouth is more important than anything else.

Two people, each having a three-course meal (without wine) can expect to pay between £30 and £48, which is keeping good food within reach of most diners.

Tony and Jackie at the Blacksmith's Arms are well on their way to joining the Vale's select list of great value dining places!

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Left to right: Leading lady Reno Sweeney (Alex Powderhill) and her Angels (Lorna Welch, Heledd Lloyd and Ellie Hoare) prepare to set sail in 'Anything Goes'.

***ANYTHING GOES*, is the latest musical production by Concept Players at The Paget Rooms, Penarth from March 11-13.**

The farce is set aboard a transatlantic liner in the 1930s, heading from New York to England with a motley bunch of passengers and crew in tow.

Written by Cole Porter, the show includes classic tunes like 'You're the Top', 'I Get a Kick out of You', and, of course, 'Anything Goes'.

The production is being staged in support of the Marie Curie Cancer Care hospice in Penarth.

Tickets are now available online at www.concept-players.com or from the Box Office on 029 2049 0019.

More information about 'Anything Goes' and Concept Players can be found at www.concept-players.com

Vale PACT meetings

DYFAN PACT, *Barry Comprehensive School, March 9, at 6pm.*
COURT PACT, *Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, March 11, at 7.30pm.*
PETERSTON Cuppa with a Copper meeting, *The Three Horseshoes public house, March 9, at 11.30am.*
LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, *Llantwit Major Leisure Centre, March 9, at 7pm.*
ST ATHAN PACT, *Old School Building, March 9, at 7.30pm.*
PLYMOUTH street surgery, *Clifftops car park, February 25, between 3pm-5pm.*
DINAS POWYS PACT, *Bethesda Hall, March 8, at 7pm.*
STANWELL PACT, *Glyndwr Community Centre, March 11, at 7pm.*

Roadworks report

Plassey Street, junctions with Glebe Street/Albert Road, Penarth – carriageway width restrictions.
Pontypridd Street - junction with Mount Pleasant – footway restriction in place.
Gwern Y Steeple to Station Road, Peterston Super Ely – road closure.
Halfaes Lane, St Nicholas – road closure.
Boverton Road junction with Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major – temporary traffic control.
A48 junction with Cross Farm Nurseries – temporary traffic control.
Caerau Lane, Wenvoe – temporary traffic control.

CELTIC DANCE

ATAL Y FRO celebrates Celtic connections with Twmpath/Ceili, an evening of Celtic folk dance, with live music by the band Cat's Claw, on Friday, March 5 at Barry Memorial Hall, 7.30pm.

Telephone 01446 744755 for details.

Rhoose bingo

RHOOSE Community Hall at Stewart Road is holding another fundraising bingo afternoon on Saturday, February 27 at 2.30pm. All are welcome.

The Bones may be lovely, but there is not much meat on them!

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

AFTER becoming perhaps the most sought-after director in cinema after his success with *The Lord of the Rings trilogy*, Peter Jackson seemingly took a step back from the limelight.

There was the small matter of his retread of *King Kong*, and his producing work, particularly on Neill Blomkamp's superb District 9, but Jackson's first film since Kong was released in 2005, sees him return to the pre-Rings territory of the likes of *Heavenly Creatures* with an adaption of Alice Sebold's *The Lovely Bones*.

Susie Salmon (Saoirse Ronan) is 14 and on the cusp of womanhood and becoming an adult. However, when she is murdered by reclusive neighbour George (Stanley Tucci), she watches over her family (Mark Wahlberg, Rachel Weisz and Rose McIver) from between worlds as they struggle to come to terms with the tragedy of what has happened to her.

As the investigation of her death wears on, the lives of her family begin breaking down, as Susie can only look on.

Peter Jackson is a director who proved with both the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy and *King Kong* that he is more than comfortable with making big-budget movies that balance narrative along with spectacle; what earlier work such as *Heavenly Creatures* proved was that beyond the bombast, he was a director who could handle pared down stories, something *The Lovely Bones* harks back to.

Yet here the finished product feels a touch too cold and devoid of real substance to convince on its own terms.

A big problem is that the source material is not only rightly revered as a literary piece but also digs deeply into the family set-up, with the impact of Susie's death hitting the family hard. In transposing the story from page to screen, Jackson and fellow scriptwriters Fran Walsh and Phillipa Boyens lose some of that impact (similarly hindered by a 12A rating that takes the real horror of the murder out of the equation), with the film feeling pat and at times mawkish.

They start off superbly, setting up the characters with skill, while the constant references to what Susie wants to be when she grows up and her future life, are all infused with a pathos that ramps up the sadness in knowing full well that these ambitions will never be fulfilled.

However, come events post-murder, they fail to satisfactorily reconcile the family drama element of the Salmon's getting themselves back on their feet following the tragedy, and the fantastical 'between world' that Susie occupies, the juxtaposition of the two jarring somewhat.

Given a run time that weighs in at a hefty 135 minutes, they struggle to really get across the family's agony in the time period.

While there are moments of grace and tenderness dotted throughout a touch of schmaltz that undercuts things, particularly as the film progresses; the material being a little too overcome with emotion, without digging deeply enough to warrant it.

Visually, the film is gorgeous, with Jackson capturing the 1970's feel beautifully, with understated camera work and enough clever visual tricks to make it interesting; the real meat, however, comes with the 'between world', rendered gorgeously well by both Jackson's eye for visuals and the digital effects work of Weta.

Using elements of the Salmon family's life, Jackson brings bottle ships crashing against rocks, gazebos crumbling under the sadness of the family and much more, vivid visuals coming to the forefront.

The cast assembled offer turns that are varied; from Saoirse Ronan's superb turn as Susie made all the more impressive by the fact that the film pretty much hangs on the young actress' performance, to Mark Wahlberg as Susie's father, who shows some decent acting before resorting to his favoured method of showing emotion, flaring his nostrils and staring into the middle distance.

While Rachel Weisz is somewhat wasted in a turn that feels perfunctory due to the script, both Susan Sarandon and Stanley Tucci are superb in their respective performances.

The former may only be on screen for a short while, but she takes great delight in playing Susie's grandmother, whose alcohol-soaked veneer cracks to reveal warmth beneath it, while Tucci is genuinely creepy as the murderer whose mundane existence masks his evil thoughts - his Oscar nomination is hugely deserved.

The Lovely Bones feels like somewhat of a 'gap year' film for Jackson, something to keep him ticking over until his next move.

There is nothing bad about that, and I'm sure most directors would be more than happy to put their name to the end product here; but for a director like Jackson, it all feels a touch too perfunctory in the grand scheme of things.

VERDICT - A piece of work that lies in the shadow of its source material, *The Lovely Bones* is a film that never really hits the heights, despite the pedigree of those involved.

While Stanley Tucci, Susan Sarandon and Saoirse Ronan offer wonderful performances, and Peter Jackson's direction is expectedly strong, there is lack of meat on these Bones.

Average.

Free entry to Cosmeston...

THIS Sunday (February 28) entry to Cosmeston Medieval Village will be free in honour of our national saint.

The Medieval villagers at Cosmeston are offering free entrance and guided tours, so visitors can experience a recreated medieval village of the 14th century built on its original foundations, with artefacts, gardens, rare breeds and even 'medieval' villagers – all as that would have appeared more than 600 years ago.

A spokesman said: "Step back in time more than 600 years and see a medieval baker at work, the wise woman with her herbs and ointments, and experience the delights of the medieval surgeon!

"Or, if you are lucky, you might get the chance to try on some of the village's collection of armour!

"You can also hear tales of St David and the great victory over the French at the battle of Crecy!"

He added: "As an extra treat, there will also be some archaeological excavation at the village over this weekend!"

For further information, call 029 2070 1678.

Wales and India in cultural harmony

A WELSH Arts Festival has teamed up with an Asian theatre company, a community radio station and an Indian musician to tell the story of life in 1940s India.

A Lifetime on Tiptoes, a play by Mazhar Tirmazi, was launched at the Senedd by Plaid Cymru regional AM Chris Franks, who lives in the Vale.

It included specially composed pieces of music for the project by renowned tabla player, Kuljit Bhamra. The music has been commissioned by the Gwanwyn Festival – an arts festival for older people, from Age Concern Cymru and Help the Aged in Wales.

South Wales Central AM Chris Franks said: "I am pleased to support this special event which is being turned into an ambitious radio and internet project."

Polls access for disabled wins support

THE Polls Apart campaign for disabled access at polling stations which will be launched by Scope on St David's Day, is being backed by an AM.

Alun Cairns, Conservative regional AM for south Wales west, said: "I was shocked to hear from Scope that, at the last general election in 2005, more than two thirds of polling stations had access problems which could prevent disabled voters from voting independently.

"This really is not good enough, after we have had years of fighting for improved access for disabled people in the UK.

"Local authorities, which provide polling stations, really have to ensure that they are located in buildings with disabled access.

"If not, we are disenfranchising a whole sector of the community."

Mr Cairns said he would be contacting returning officers throughout south Wales west and also in the Vale, where he is a candidate at the general election.

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Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON and where

Valeways winter walks

ON Sunday, February 28, at 2pm, there will be a walk west along the cliff top at Sully. Start at Sully Church.

Free Dyffryn

THE public will be admitted free to Dyffryn Gardens and Arboretum on Sunday, February 28 – in honour of St David's Day.

Coun Anthony Ernest, cabinet member for leisure and tourism, said: "I am delighted that Dyffryn is marking this day of national importance by offering people free admission. While it is the ideal time for local residents of the Vale to enjoy the first signs of spring, it also helps to encourage tourism to the area."

From 10am-4pm, the public can explore the gardens and join the walk, 'A Glimpse of Spring', at 2.30pm. Traditional Welsh harp music will be played in the tea rooms at various intervals.

Dyspraxia Support

VALE Dyspraxia Group will meet on Monday, March 1, in Barry Hospital, Colcot Road, at 7.30pm.

The Vale group provides support for children with dyspraxia and their families, liaising with education authorities and running a laptop to support pupils with dyspraxia.

Families (both parents and children) of young people with dyspraxia and related conditions (eg dyslexia, ADHD, Aspergers) are welcome at a presentation by MAZE on advocacy for young people with additional learning needs.

Flower club

THE Cowbridge and District flower Arrangers Club will meet at 7.30pm on March 3 in the Duke Wellington, Cowbridge, when Lynda Garrett will give a demonstration entitled 'Down on the Farm'.

PUKKA BIRTHDAY

BARRY's PUKKA drama group is celebrating its fifth birthday at the Paget Rooms, Penarth from March 3-5 with a production of *Five*.

This is showcasing the group's performances over the last five years; from *Jesus Christ Superstar*; *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*; and *West Side Story*; to *Annie* and *Buddy – the Buddy Holly Story*.

With a cast of talented adult and children singers, dancers and actors, PUKKA is supported by West End musicians and the set construction manager from *Dr Who* and *Torchwood*.

The non-profit making group has raised thousands of pounds for local charities and good causes.

For tickets and details, visit www.pukkaproductions.org.uk or 'Cwtch' coffee in High Street, Barry.

Tabernacl concert

THE Tabernacl Music Society presents its spring concert at Tabernacl Chapel, Derwen Road, Bridgend on March 7 at 7.30pm, when it performs Mendelssohn's dramatic oratoria *Elijah* under the baton of musical director Kevin Adams.

For tickets and full information, telephone 01656 654899.

Cancer support

THE Penarth fundraising committee for Cancer Research UK has thanked those who supported its spring fair on February 13, helping to raise £666.69.

The next event is the annual Big Breakfast and table top sale in All Saints Church Hall, Penarth, on Saturday, March 13, from 9.30am-12noon. A table costs £5.

Call 029 2070 2487 for details.

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COWBRIDGE CRAFT FAIR RETURNS FOR 2010
After a very successful 2009, Cowbridge Craft and Gift Fair is up and running again in 2010.
Building on the success of last year, and introducing several new stalls this year, the first Craft Fair will be up and running on the last Saturday of the month - February 27th. This is perfect timing for you to come along and find those special Mother's Day and Easter Gifts.
There will be over 20 stalls this month, giving a wide range of gifts for that special occasion.
As usual the Craft Fair will be held in Old Hall, with the doors opening at 10am and running until 4pm

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Discover the performer in you, no matter what your age!

StageC.A.M.P. (Central Academy of Music and Performance) are proud to announce their arrival in Cowbridge.

They will be offering various courses and private tuition to adults and children in all aspects of music and performance. Feel Good and Sing starts on March 1, and is a 10-week course aimed at anyone who wants to have fun and sing.

Singing has been clinically proven to ease symptoms of depression and anxiety; it helps build confidence, improves your posture, and improves general well being.

Young Performers is a 10-week performance course aimed at 7-16 year olds who want to improve their singing and performance skills. Over the 10 weeks we will cover various songs, including songs from Glee, harmonies, solos, dance, and song writing.

Due to limited places, auditions will take place on Tuesday March 2, 4.30pm at The Little Shop of Calm, 1 Westgate, Cowbridge.

Course fee is £65 for 10 weeks.

For more info e-mail contact@liannemorgan.co.uk or visit www.stagecamp.co.uk

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Tadpoles and minis out and about with pony club in an action-packed half term

Competitors at Haberdashers', Monmouth.

LEFT: Quiz team and supporters.

HALF-TERM holidays were full of activities for Llangeinor Hunt Pony Club, which draws members from both the Bridgend and Vale county boroughs.

Team jumping at Talygarn Equestrian won second place rosettes for the members jumping in the 1ft 9in class. They were Beth Granville, Charlotte Mitrovitch, Ashleigh Furness and Shauna Evans.

The quiz team, consisting of Abbie Taylor, Meryl Hanmer, Bronwyn Wictome and Beth Granville, came first in the area competition held at Bonvilston, beating off keen competition from the host pony club, Glamorgan. They won by a very close one and a half points. Eleven teams competed from as far away as Irfon and Tywi, Monmouth, Tredegar Farmers, as well as neighbouring pony clubs, Glamorgan, Dinas Powys and Talygarn Equestrian Centre.

The team will now be practising for the final championship to be held at Warwick College, Morton Morrell, Warwickshire on March 28, when they will compete against pony clubs from all over Great Britain.

They will answer questions on 'The Pony Club', 'Farm animals and Working Dogs', 'On the Highway', 'Tack', 'Horse and Pony Care', 'Practical Round', 'Castles, Royalty and Horses' a 'Picture Round' and 'Crazy Horse Parts'. To top off the day at Bonvilston, Beth Granville won first prize with her mascot.

It was off then to Haberdashers Girls School, Monmouth, for the second in a series of three triathlon competitions.

Blessed by fine weather, our young competitors excelled to win best shoot and best swim Mali Howell, best run Molly-Ann Rees.

In the Tadpole class, out of 28 competitors, and best run and swim Seren Allin out of 56 in the mini class.

The Tadpole team consisting of Mali Howell, Stephanie Brownbill, Molly-Ann Rees and William Jervis came first. Overall winner of the tadpoles was Mali Howell, and overall winner of the minis was Seren Allin.

The mini team of Beth Granville, Seren Allin, Alys Pritchard and Libby Jervis came third. Other members who did really well were Joel Hill, Danielle Jones, Abbie Jones, Georgia Kemeys, Olivia Tudor, Jo Wilkins, Jack Wilkins, Jessica Hegarty, Claudia Hegarty and Natalie Mordecai.

Team jumping at Talygarn.

Meryl.

Beth.

Mrs Marion Elliott, District Commissioner said: "We are very fortunate in our pony club to have such exceptional and enthusiastic members; backed by their families, they put in hours of practice, but have lots of fun.

"Some members take part in every discipline, and at our recent circus party and presentation evening they have been recognised for their contributions to Llangeinor Hunt Pony Club, and were awarded trophies, medals and free rally vouchers."

Most improved 7 and under – Jack Tudor; most improved 10 and under – Tilly Mullins; most improved 13 and under – Alice Tudor; most improved 16 and under– Josh Rees; best attendance – Shauna Evans; most helpful member – Meryl Hanmer; best all rounder – Beth Granville; best ambassador – Jessica Hegarty.

Special medals were awarded to two young ladies who have excelled in triathlons, having either best shoot, swim or run every time out – Mali Howells and Seren Allin.

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BRO MORGANNWG

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Use our website 24 hours a day to make credit or debit card payments by visiting our website.

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A brand new chapter in library services

The Council's libraries are adding to their extensive services and will be offering:

- Information on all council services
- Refuse and recycling bags and boxes
- Recycling and refuse collection calendars
- Missed refuse and recycling reports
- Job application packs
- Telecare application packs

These services will be available in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Penarth from March 2010 and other libraries later in the year.

For more information, please call Contact OneVale on 01446 700111 or visit:

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

NEWS FROM YSGOL BRO MORGANNWG

SCHOOL'S DRAMA PUPILS TACKLE DISNEY MUSICAL – BUT IN WELSH!

THE school staged an amazing production of Disney's hit musical *High School Musical*, and also premiered the first Welsh language production in south Wales.

It was a thrilling experience to be in the audience witnessing the abundance of talent on stage, and congratulations should go to all the staff and pupils involved in this highly professional production.

The main characters were Georgina Griggs, Aled Williams, Sion Owen, Lisa Williams, Carys Jones and Jacob Ellis.

According to Georgina (who played Gabriella) "When it was announced that we would be staging such a world famous production as *HSM*, there was huge excitement among the pupils.

"Having said this, none of us could have anticipated how much fun, and what an unforgettable experience it would be."

Oxbridge treble exam success

WARMEST congratulations to three year-13 pupils, Mollie Arbuthnot, Mathew Metcalf and Ruth Pilcher, who have been successful in their applications for places at Oxbridge this year.

They are the first pupils from Bro Morgannwg to attain places at Cambridge or Oxford, quite a feat considering that the sixth form was only established four years ago.

The three will study a variety of subjects, ranging from science to the arts. Mathew will study engineering at Wadham College Oxford, Ruth will study history at St John's, Oxford and Mollie will study German and Russian at Sidney Sussex, Cambridge.

We wish them well in the future.

Science workshops

YEAR-13 pupils attended a chemistry workshop at the University of Wales, Cardiff and at the end of last term, the 10 year-13 pupils studying biology A-Level visited Techniquest for a practical workshop and hands on science lesson.

One of the pupils, Emma Parkes, said: "We learnt about DNA and its structure. During a practical session we isolated the DNA present in the mitocondria of our cheek cells.

"After isolating the DNA, we learnt how to do electrophoresis. The whole experience really brought the curriculum to life.

"Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day, and the information we learnt will prove very useful for the forthcoming exam."

A number of the pupils who have chosen to study science in the sixth form, all taught through the medium of Welsh, have succeeded in securing places at universities where they will continue their studies in the medical sciences.

Oliver Clarke, Emma Parkes and Ben Bryl will study medicine, Mitch Bryl optometry, and Rhiannon Foster Davies dentistry.

Doodle 4 Google

THE art department is very proud of the continued success of pupils who have taken part in the 'Doodle 4 Google' competition.

The theme for 2009 was 'My Hero' and pupils worked through various activities before producing their final doodle.

Once again, pupils have achieved a high standard of work and it is a delight to see the work of four pupils selected as one of the 480 regional finalists.

More than 50,000 doodles were created this year, so getting to this stage is a huge achievement for Beth Davies, Tirion Davies, Thomas Nugent (year-11) and Elis Jackson (year-9).

Year-8's skiing trip

WE arrived in Austria and everyone was excited for the week ahead.

We had a warm welcome by the staff in the hotel. They had prepared a three-course meal with local dishes.

The rooms were great, with interesting views, and we were eager to get started.

We had to get used to the routine of getting up early and on the slopes by 9am. Everyone was put into levels and each level had a different teacher.

At the end of the week everyone had improved.

We had a lot of fun in the nights and did a variety of things, swimming, ice-skating, shopping and a disco to finish the week.

The week was great and it is something that we will remember for a long time.

Thank-you to Mr Beynon for organising the week and also to Miss Williams, Mr Davies and Miss Evans.

Rhian Bumford (8M)
and Megan Dafydd (8B)

ABOVE : A scene from the school's Welsh language version of High School Musical.

ABOVE: Learning about DNA testing at the science workshop.

ABOVE: The school's successful Oxbridge applicants, Mollie Arbuthnot, Mathew Metcalf and Ruth Pilcher.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas
Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00095/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Double storey side and rear extension
Location:/Lleoliad: 4, Maes Y Ffynon, Bonvilston
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Bonvilston

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00109/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new dwelling including conversion of existing barn
Location:/Lleoliad: The Rickyard, Upper Farm Court, Rhoose Road, Rhoose
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Rhoose

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00119/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of garage to side. Construction of two storey extension to side and single storey extension to rear
Location:/Lleoliad: The Lodge, 1, Coed Masarnen, Colwinston
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Colwinston

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00127/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed alterations and extension to existing cottage including slate roof to replace thatched roof (removed July, 2009). Demolition of existing garage and replacement with double garage with games room/storage over
Location:/Lleoliad: Kninkin, St. Hilary
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth St. Hilary

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00128/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of two detached houses with basements
Location:/Lleoliad: Ty Maen Farm, Coed Marsarnen Road, Colwinston
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Colwinston

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00107/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed internal/external alterations and repair to include internal/external finishes, new roof covering in natural slate, repair and partial reconstruction of stacks/external staircase, structural repairs to roof
Location:/Lleoliad: Castle Farm, St. Georges-Super-Ely
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhestredig Grade I

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar- vog.planning-register.co.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Application(s) that may be of General Public Interest
Ceisiadau a allai fod o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol i'r Cyhoedd

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00123/RES
Proposal:/Cynnig: Residential and open space development, including associated building and engineering operations
Location:/Lleoliad: Land at and adjoining White Farm, Merthyr Dyfan, Barry

Application(s) which might affect a Public Right of Way
Ceisiadau a allai effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00115/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Retention of turnout area and amended ground levels, retention and reduction in scale of existing gabion walling and new site planting
Location:/Lleoliad: Castle Court, Broad Close Lane, Moulton

Application(s) submitted with an Environmental Statement
Ceisiadau a gyflwynwyd gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Land at Wrinstone Farm, south of Wenvoe Quarry.

I give notice that Cemex Ltd., is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Quarrying of limestone; Construction of tunnel link between Wenvoe Quarry and extension site; Related soil stripping and temporary soil storage; Restoration of quarry to nature conservation use.

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement for which we have received AMENDED DETAILS, which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain copies of the AMENDED DETAILS of the environmental statement at a charge of £25.00 paper copy or £2.50 for CD from Shaun Denny, Cemex UK Operations Limited, Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands. B69 4RJ, so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:
- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement plus AMENDED DETAILS.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 18 March, 2010.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 18 March, 2010 quoting reference 2009/00801/FUL.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn Land at Wrinstone Farm, south of Wenvoe Quarry

Hysbysir trwy hyn Cemex Ltd., n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfe Quarrying of limestone; Construction of tunnel link between Wenvoe Quarry and extension site; Related soil stripping and temporary soil storage; Restoration of quarry to nature conservation use

Cyflwynwyd y cynnig ei gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd wedi'l derbyn gyda CYNLLUNIAU NEWYDD, sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd brynu copïau o'r CYNLLUNIAU NEWYDD am £25.00 am gope papur neu £2.50 am CD yr un oddi wrth/o Shaun Denny, Cemex UK Operations Limited, Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, Warley, West Midlands. B69 4RJ tra bydd y stoc ar gael.

Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copïau o'r:
- cais;
- cynlluniau;
- datganiad amgylcheddol ar CYNLLUNIAU NEWYDD;
- dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 18 Mawrth, 2010.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 18 Mawrth, 2010 an ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod 2009/00801/FUL.

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk

Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 25 February, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 25 Chwefror, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

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NEW **£265,000**

Boverton Brook, Boverton
Substantial detached house. 4 beds. 2 Recps. 3 Bath. Fantastic kitchen fitted 2008. Conservatory. Utility. Cloaks/WC. UPVC. GCH. Private south west garden.
Call Simon 01446 791963

£315,000

Thistle Cottage St Athan
Well appointed. 3 bedrooms. Classic cottage style. Detached family home. Gas fired heating. Double glazed. Immediate possession available.
Call Simon 01446 791963

NEW PRICE **£255,000**

Newbarn Holdings Flemingston
Semi detached home. 2 bedrooms & 2 reception rooms. Kitchen with french patio doors. Conservatory. Family bathroom. Gas fired heating. Double glazed. Open countryside views.
Call Simon 01446 791963

NEW **£195,000**

Carmarthen Close, Llantwit Major
Detached family home. 3 bedrooms. Well presented. Family Kitchen/diner. Gas fired heating. Double glazed. Off road parking. Internal viewing rec.
Call Simon 01446 791963

£175,000

Fairfield Rise, Llantwit Major
Semi detached bungalow. 3 bedrooms. Lounge. Kitchen. Gas fired central heating. Double Glazed. Driveway leading to garage.
Call Simon 01446 791963

£135,000

Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major
Semi Detached house. 3 bedrooms. Close to Local Primary School. UPVC DG, Gas CH. Outbuilding. Westerly rear garden.
Call Simon 01446 791963

£135,995

Clos Ogney, Llantwit Major
Modern end terrace. 2 beds. Conservatory. Kitchen/diner. UPVC. Combi GCH. Garage & Drive. Open green aspect.
Call Simon 01446 791963

£99,950

Partridge Road, St Athan
Middle terraced home. 2 bedrooms. Well presented. Popular location. Open green aspect. Off road parking.
Call Simon 01446 791963

NEW **£92,500**

Scott Close, St Athan
Well Presented. 2 Bedrooms. Mid-Link. Kitchen/Diner. Conservatory. Garage. Enclosed Rear Garden.
Call Simon 01446 791963

NEW **£159,950**

Readers Way, Rhoose
Superbly Presented Semi, 3 Bed & Lounge/Dining Room, No Chain, 1st Floor Bathroom/WC, UPVC DG, Gas CH, Parking, Garage, Gardens, Tucked Away.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

NEW **£159,950**

The Wheate Close, Rhoose
Semi Detached, 3 Beds, Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Cloaks, En-Suite, Bathroom, UPVC DG, Gas CH, Garage, Drive, Garden, Open Views.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

NEW **£182,500**

St Siors Mead, Rhoose
Superbly Positioned Detached, 3 Beds, Living Room, Kitchen/Dining Room, En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Gas CH, UPVC DG, No Chain, Large Garden, Drive, Garage.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

NEW **£199,950**

Heol Y Dryw, Rhoose Point
Superbly Positioned 4 Bed House, Lounge With Sea Views, Kitchen/Dining Room, 2 En-Suites, Bathroom WC, UPVC DG, Gas CH, No Chain, 2 Car Drive, Garage, Gardens.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

NEW **£215,000**

Benecrofte, Rhoose
Superb Detached, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Receptions, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, En-Suite, Gas CH, UPVC DG, Drive, Garden, Open Aspect.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

OFFERS INVITED **£270,000**

Matthew Road, Rhoose
Superb Detached, 4 Beds, 4 Receptions, Stunning Kitchen, Cloaks, En-Suite, Bathroom, Gas CH, UPVC DG, No Chain, Extensive Parking, Gardens.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

£295,000

Rhoose Road, Rhoose
Unique Detached, 5 Bedrooms, 4 Receptions, Extensive Accommodation, 2 En-Suites, Luxury Bathroom, UPVC DG, Gas CH, Substantial Parking, Gardens.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

NEW PRICE **£379,950**

Fontygary Road, Rhoose
Superb Detached, 4 Beds, Open Plan Living, Bespoke Designer Kitchen, 2 Cloaks, En-Suite, Bathroom, Gas CH, UPVC DG, Parking, Double Garage, Gardens, Sea Views.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

NEW **£430,000**

Heol Peartree, Rhoose Point
Stunning Detached, 5 Beds, 3 Receptions, 3 Baths, Superb Kitchen/Diner, Magnificent Views, Gas CH, UPVC DG, No Chain, Gardens, Double Garage, Parking.
Call Andrew on 01446 709945

NEW **£79,950**

Main Street, Barry
Superb Duplex flat with large lounge, double bedroom, kitchen/breakfast room and converted shower room. UPVC DG, GCH and allocated rear garden. No Chain.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

NEW PRICE **£89,950**

Howard Court, Barry
First Floor Apartment with lounge, 2 bedrooms, fitted kitchen, bathroom with separate WC. GCH(Combi), UPVC DG, Garage and parking. No Chain.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

NEW **£150,000**

Pencoedtre Road, Barry
Unique detached property with 2 Receptions, 3 bedrooms, kitchen and 1st floor bathroom. Part UPVC DG, Gas CH(Combi, Driveway. 68' family garden and No Chain.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

NEW **£127,500**

Wyndham St, Barry
Superbly located terrace with lounge/diner, kitchen, 3 bedrooms and loft area. 1st floor bathroom/WC , Gas CH, UPVC DG, Rear Garden. No Chain.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£134,950

Philadelphia Close, Barry
Attractive semi with 2 receptions, 3 Bedrooms, refitted kitchen and 1st floor bathroom. Gas CH, UPVC DG, Large garden, garage and drive. No Chain.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

NEW PRICE **£174,950**

Rhodfa'r Gwagenni, Barry
Spacious End Link Townhouse with 4 Bedrooms, 2 Receptions and kitchen/diner. Bathroom, Cloaks and en-suite. Gas CH, UPVC DG and large rear garden.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

NEW **£199,950**

Oakfield Road, Barry
Extended semi with 4 bedrooms, 2 receptions and large kitchen/ breakfast room, Bathroom. Gas CH and mostly UPVC DG. Garage, Drive and gardens.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

£199,950

Buckingham Place, Barry
Super Detached Bungalow with 1/2 Receptions, 2/3 Bedrooms and modern fitted kitchen. Refitted shower room/WC, Gas CH, UPVC DG, 4 car drive. Lovely private rear garden.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

NEW PRICE **£279,950**

Glan-Y-Mor, The Knap
Lovely Modern House with 2 receptions, 3 Bedrooms, kitchen, Cloaks/WC and family bathroom. Garage and Southerly Gardens. Outstanding views over the Channel.
Call Andrew on 01446 713001

1989 - 2010
21
YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

Away win maintains league position

Cowbridge Squash first team retains top spot

COWBRIDGE A Bar 44 squash team produced a 4-1 away win against Abercynon A and a haul of 17 points maintains their position at the top of South Wales Div 2 East B.

Second-placed Caldicot went one better with a 5-0 win at Risca A and have narrowed the gap to three points in so doing.

Chris Ranger, called up from the Bs, recorded a solid start at No 5 with a 3-0 win over seasoned campaigner Chris Clark. Richard Ford, stepping up to No 4 for this fixture as regular No 2 Jon Bisson was unavailable for selection, started his match well taking the first set 9-2 but unfortunately faded against a very fit Jason Roberts and went down 1-3.

Niall Sloan and Garfield Leask each also stepped a string to Nos 3 and 2 respectively, but both turned in highly creditable 3-0 results.

This was matched by a very comfortable performance from regular No 1 Nick Guard (9-3, 9-3, 9-2) overall match result 17-4 – with the Abercynon referee bonus point securing a quarter of their evening's total!

The Cowbridge B Bar 44 fixture against St Mellons D was postponed but a re-arranged match will take place in the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, the C team played host to Fairwater B still searching for their first win in this half of the season.

Phil Matthews at No 5 posted a 3-1 win to set the team on their way. Matthews Jnr (Dave) at No 3 and vintage racketmaster Hugh Wallace at No 2 were unable to break through to gain points for the team, although Wallace did take the second game to a tie-break before posting a 'blob' in the final game.

The onus was on skipper Colin Giles at No 1 and the in-form No 4 Tony Steele to try to secure a team victory. The usually resolute Giles has been struggling for form in recent weeks and confirmed this by going 0-2 down fairly quickly (2-9, 1-9), but there was a glimmer of a return to his former self by taking the third game 9-6. Unfortunately that is where his ascendancy ended and went down 4-9 in the fourth.

So, with pride at stake, Tony Steele set about putting some Cowbridge points on the board – this he did with some big hitting squash for the first two games (9-3, 9-1) but then eased off the pressure to lose the third until he reverted to the earlier tactics to blast home 9-1 in the fourth (match result 7-15).

This week the As travelled to Newport to take on their improving 'F' team. The B team play hosts to Old Penarthians (Thurs) while the Cs are away to Llanishen B (Wednesday) .

RUSS WATTS

Cowbridge under-10s on form at Ponty

COWBRIDGE under-10s were once again on the road, with Pontypridd the destination.

The conditions were perfect as the sun beat down on Taff Vale Park. Ioan Lewis kicked off and dropped the ball on a sixpence for Bevan Howells to gather and rampage through the opposition defence to register the first score. Ioan Lewis added the conversion for a 7-0 lead.

The Cowbridge forwards then turned over good ball with some aggressive defence. The ball was gathered by Evan Williams and the speedy winger sidestepped his way through the opposition to increase the lead before adding the conversion.

From a series of rucks, the ball was fed to Bevan Howells on half way and the Cowbridge outside-half carved through for a superb score. Bevan then added the conversion for a 21-0 lead.

Pontypridd hit back from the restart and crafted a well-worked try of their own and reduced the arrears with the conversion.

However, this only served to galvanise the Cowbridge effort and the ball was moved swiftly from touchline to touchline, with only superb defence from Pontypridd denying another score. The ball was held up in a maul close to the Ponty line and after superb driving from Sam Corkill and Jac Roberts, the versatile Bevan Howells ripped the ball clear for his hat trick.

With the conversion missed, Cowbridge once again turned over Ponty ball, Ioan Lewis attacked the blind side and floated a superb pass over the defence for Luke Beattie to power over in the corner. Luke Beattie added the conversion to leave a half-time score of Pontypridd 7 Cowbridge 33.

From the restart, Pontypridd were determined to reduce the arrears. Their forwards put together their best phases of play in the match and were rewarded with an excellent score.

The remainder of the half was a well-matched affair with both teams determined to play an open, attacking brand of rugby. However, Cowbridge held the edge and despite making a few unforced errors during the half, the ever-dependable Bevan Howells added the final try of the match and, with a Jac Roberts conversion, the whistle blew for a final score of **Pontypridd 14 Cowbridge 40.**

The second game of the day saw the majority of the development squad mixed with a few from the first team. This would prove to be a much closer affair, with Pontypridd determined to register a win.

The home side took the lead early on but missed a conversion. Then came the sight all the Cowbridge supporters have been waiting to see as Rhys Bradshaw marked his return from injury, produced a superb solo effort and conversion. Both sides then traded scores, with Bevan Howells adding to his personal tally for the day and Liam Murphy successfully converting to leave a half-time score of Pontypridd 19 Cowbridge 14.

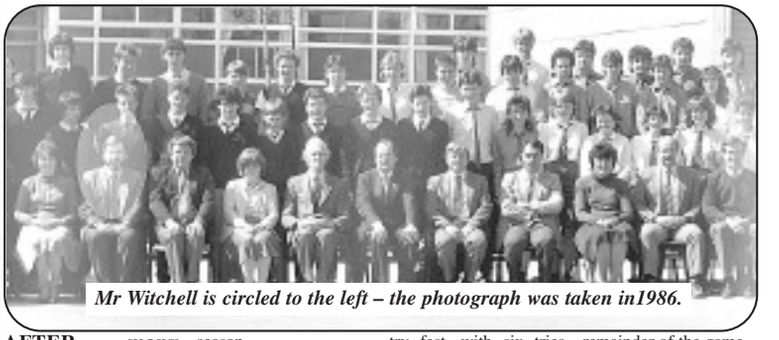
It was all change for the second period and to be fair, Pontypridd showed more hunger for the victory and added two superb tries for a deserved win and a final score of **Pontypridd 33 Cowbridge 14.**

Once again, an excellent performance from the boys with everyone making a telling contribution. Our thanks to Mark Davies for arranging the fixture and to all at Pontypridd for the warm welcome received and their generous hospitality. It is a fixture we all look forward to during the season and long may it continue.

As always, a huge thank you to the Cowbridge supporters, although Sat Navs should have been on somebody's Christmas list.

Squad: Bevan Howells, Dan Marshall, Dan Taylor, Evan Williams, Ioan Lewis, Jac Roberts, Jake Griffiths, Josh Lloyd-Doyle, Liam Murphy, Luke Beattie, Max Cunnington, Oliver Reynolds, Rhys Bradshaw, Sam Corkill, Tom Jose, William Davies.

WICK RFC PAY TRIBUTE TO LOCAL TEACHER



Mr Witchell is circled to the left – the photograph was taken in1986.

AFTER many weeks of no games, Wick RFC was eager to restart the season with a home league fixture against Pyle seconds last Saturday.

A tribute was paid at the game, to local teacher Nigel Witchell, who died recently. Mr Witchell, pictured above in 1986, taught many of the club members at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School between 1971 and 1996. He was a popular teacher and will be greatly missed. His son Dave is a current player and coaching assistant with the club.

Wick, the league leaders, had not beaten Pyle for several years, although coming within one score earlier this season.

Pyle fielded a youthful front row and considered passive scrumages but decided against that with a view to giving them valuable experience. The pressure told eventually at the set piece and non contested scrums were called at half time with the game poised at 15–0 to Wick. Territory and possession had been even until then.

The second half was a try fest, with six tries scored. Even though the conditions were quite sticky, both teams endeavoured to run the ball at every chance.

Wick benefited tactically more than Pyle with the advent of passive scrums, replacing the front row with back rowers Kieran David and Mathew Lewis. With this new freedom, the Wick pack cut loose and dominated the remainder of the game.

Pyle scored a well worked consolation try combining forward and backs.

Wick point scorers: Tries by John Birkett, Bryn McNaughton, Rob Molby, Dai Clark, Rhodri Thomas, John Cooper (two). Paul Creed penalty (two) and conversion (one). Dan Powell conversions (four). Final score 51–5.

PP

Vale boys join up with Welsh under-16 squad

TWO boys from the Vale have been selected for the Wales under-16 football squad – and they will soon be heading off to a four-day training camp.

Rhys James, a pupil at Barry Comprehensive School, and Curtis Watkins (Llantwit Major Comprehensive) will join the Welsh national development squad training camp, which runs from March 2 to March 5.

The camp was originally planned for January, but was postponed due to bad weather.

Rhys and Curtis are both on the books of Cardiff City.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
HENSOL ROAD (PART), HENSOL
(30 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2010

On the 17th February 2010 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and pursuant to Part IV of Schedule 9 and of all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedule below.

The Order will come into operation on the 1st March 2010 or on the date that the necessary signs are in place, whichever is the later and a copy of the Order and a plan showing the affected area may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 1st March 2010 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

SCHEDULE

Hensol Road (Part) (also known as Hensol Villas), Hensol.

No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to proceed at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour from a point approximately 455 metres west of its junction with Pendoylan Road, north-westwards for a distance of approximately 300 metres.

Dated this 25th day of February 2010

Mr. M.E. Punter, Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2010
(CYFYNGU CYFLYMDRA I 30 M.Y.A.)
(RHAN O HENSOL ROAD, HENSOL)

Ar 17 Chwefror 2010, yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 84 Deddf Rheoli Traffig 1984 (ddiwygiedig) a phob p?er galluogi arall, ac yn unol â Rhan IV o Atodlen 9, wedi gwneud Gorchymyn i'r diben cyffredinol a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodlen isod.

Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 1 Mawrth 2010 neu pan fydd yr arwyddion angenrheidiol yn eu lle, oni fyddant wedi'u gosod erbyn hynny. Cewch weld copi o'r Gorchymyn a chynllun sy'n dangos yr ardal dan sylw, yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa.

Os hoffech ddadlau yn erbyn dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu'i ddarpariaethau am na chredwch fod gan y ddeddf uchod b?er i'w gweithredu, neu am y tybiwch eu bod yn methu â chydymffurfio â gofynion y ddeddf uchod neu un o'i hofferynnau, bydd gennych chwe wythnos o 1 Mawrth 2010 i wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r diben hwnnw.

ATODLEN

Rhan o Hensol Road (a adwaenir hefyd fel Hensol Villas), Hensol.

Ni fydd hawl i neb yrru na chaniatáu i neb arall yrru'n gyflymach na 30 milltir yr awr rhwng pwynt ar yr heol sydd ryw 455 medr i'r gorllewin o'r gyffordd â Pendoylan Road a phwynt arall 300 medr ymhellach i'r gogledd-orllewin.

Dyddiedig 25 Chwefror 2010

Mr. M.E. Punter, Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Gweladwy
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô, CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

SPORTS RELIEF MILE - SUNDAY 21st MARCH 2010

Order Under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Vale of Glamorgan Council has made an Order under Section 16A, Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:

WHEREAS the Vale of Glamorgan Council as Highway Authority is satisfied that traffic on the streets or parts thereof as listed in column 2 of the Schedule should on 21st March 2010 be restricted to enable the holding of a relevant event, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, HEREBY ORDERS AND DIRECTS that the following regulations shall be observed:

The streets or parts thereof as specified in the Schedule shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles, with the exception of those vehicles that are permitted to participate in the event and emergency services (including coastguard vehicles) between the hours specified in column 3 of the Schedule.

The penalty for infringement of this regulation is a fine not exceeding £1,000.

Schedule 1

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Sunday, 21st March 2010	The areas to be closed are: 1. Station Approach Road between Breaksea Drive and Friars Road, Barry Island and, 2. Friars Road between Station Approach Road and Paget Road, Barry Island.	07.30 – 17.00 Hours

Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times as will access for event vehicles issued with appropriate permits by this Council and emergency vehicles including coast guard vehicles.

Dated this 25th day of February 2010.

M. Punter,
Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

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Birthdays

LOOK WHO'S 40!
Happy Birthday
MICHAEL DAVID DAW
on 1st March 2010
Lots of Love, Mum, Dad and all the family
x x x x

Heather Parsons
Happy 70th Birthday

Sunday, 28th February
A much loved Mum, Wife, Grandma & friend
Victoria sends Hugs & Kisses from Argentina

Happy 90th Birthday
TED CHAPPELL
28th February
Love and best wishes from Muriel, Dianne, Philip and Gill, Jane and Paul, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.
x x x x

Family Notices

BARNETT
(nee Prosser)
Elizabeth
Peacefully on the 18th February after a short illness, Elizabeth (Betty) of Llantwit Major, and late of Maesteg. Beloved wife of Douglas, dearly loved mother of Ian and sister of Cissie and the late William (Billy), and loving aunt of nephews and nieces, great nephews and great nieces, and great great niece.
Resting at W A Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral on Monday, 1st March, 2010, service in St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major at 1.00pm followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15pm. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to either Marie Curie Cancer Care or MacMillan Cancer Support, c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only).

In Memoriam
Son
POOL
Kevin John
Four years on the 26th February

"It was a sudden parting,
Too bitter to forget Kev,
Those who loved you dearly
Are the ones who can never forget.
We always sit and talk of you,
And think of how you died,
No time to say goodbye,
Before you closed your eyes.
Our family chain is broken,
Nothing will ever be the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The links shall join again.
On earth you toiled, in Heaven you rest,
God bless you Kev, you were the best."

Always in our thoughts, your heartbroken Mum, Dad and family in Portsmouth.
x x x x

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Family Notices

WILKEY
Rose
Peacefully on February 21st at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Rose in her 86th year, formerly of 10 Milton Close, Llantwit Major. Beloved wife of Francis, dearly loved mother of Diane and Andrew, son and daughter in law, Gordon and Ingrid, much loved grandmother and great-grandmother.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W A Brown & Son, Pembroke House, College Street, Llantwit Major.

Funeral Friday 5th March, 2010 at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.45pm.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth.

LEWIS
Bernard W. G.
Co-founder of B & P Lewis Newsagents, Llantwit Major. Peacefully passed away on February 18th, 2010. Service and cremation to be held at Coychurch Crematorium, Monday, 1st March at 10.30am, afterwards at West House Hotel. Family flowers only. Donations may be made to Marie Curie, c/o W. A. Brown, Funeral Directors. (Cheques only).

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07 **07 JAGUAR X K convertible.** Zircon blue metallic with ivory sports leather interior, upgraded 20 inch setanta wheels, full colour satellite navigation, electric heated memory seats, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, bluetooth phone prep, only 12,621 miles, fsh, 1 owner **£39,995**

06 **56 BMW 2.0TD 320D SE 4-dr Saloon.** In Arctic grey with anthracite interior, automatic air con, upgraded alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, only 41,655 miles, fsh **£13,995**

06 **56 BMW 116i SE 5-dr** in sparkling graphite met with full Boston beige leather interior, comfort pack, cd, climate control, alloy wheels, reversing sensors, auxiliary I-pod connection, only 19,950 miles interior titanium trim, auto lights and auto wipers **£11,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz 1.8 SLK 200 Compressor Auto 2-dr Convertible** in Tellur silver, black leather interior, climate control, multi function steering wheel, CD, alloys, only 61,000 miles, fsh **£16,995**

05 **05 MERCEDES Benz M-Class 2.7 TD ML270 CDi Automatic 5-dr Station Wagon.** In Brilliant silver with Orion grey leather interior, climate control, Bluetooth phone prep, privacy glass, heated seats, rear parking sensors, only 52,975 miles **£15,995**

04 **54 MERCEDES Benz CL500 5 litre 2-dr Auto coupe.** In tanzanite blue with java leather interior with BOSE sound system, AMG body styling, electric sunroof, only 48,245 miles **£19,995**

01 **51 JAGUAR S-Type 3.0 V6 4-dr Saloon Automatic.** In Pacific blue with cashmere beige full leather interior, climate control, CD, electric seats, rear parking sensors, only 55,810 miles **£5,995**

SPORTS

07 **07 NISSAN Navara 2.5 DCi Outlaw Double Cab Pick-Up.** In stardust silver, with black outlaw cloth interior, air con, cruise control, CD, alloy wheels, lockable colour coded load cover, only 24,560 miles ..... **£13,995 + VAT**

07 **07 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 TDi GT (140)** in diamond black with siempre interior, 17 inch alloy wheels, Gt steering wheel, trip computer, a/c, front fogs, only 29,140 miles **£12,495**

07 **07 VW Beetle 1.6 Luna 2-dr Cabriolet.** In harvest moon beige with dark interior, heated seats, CD, front fogs, colour coded bumpers, only 11,335 miles **£11,995**

06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles **£10,495**

06 **06 VOLKSWAGEN Golf GT TDi 2.0 (140) 5-dr** in steel grey with dark interior, cd, dual climate control, cruise control, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, only 58,300 miles **£9,995**

06 **06 AUDI A3 1.9TDi Special Edition 3-Dr Hatchback.** In brilliant black with module black cloth interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, full Audi service history, one owner, only 55,390 miles **£9,495**

06 **06 FORD Focus 1.8TDCi Sport 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with dark flint interior, CD, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 55,315 miles **£7,495**

06 **55 TOYOTA Rav-4 2.2 D-4D T180 5-dr Station Wagon** in cadmium green with full Faro dark grey leather, colour touch screen satellite navigation, electric heated seats, blue tooth phone prep, cruise control, sunroof, dual climate control, rear parking sensors, only 50,730 miles **£14,995**

06 **55 AUDI A3 2.0T FSi 5-dr Sport Back** in Avus silver with matrix cloth interior. BOSE speaker system, 17 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, climate conrol, cd, only 39,280 miles **£11,995**

05 **05 MINI 1.6 Cooper S (Chilli Pack).** Black, black leather interior, a/c, alloys, cd, rear parking sensors, only 49,390 miles **£10,995**

05 **55 BMW X3 2.0D Sport 5-dr Station Wagon.** In blue water silver with black leather interior, sat nav, multi CD, heated seats, front and rear parking sensors, only 61,930 miles **£14,995**

05 **55 HYUNDAI Coupe SE 2.0** in ebony black with full black leather interior, sunroofg, air con, cruise control, alloy wheels, cd, only 68,000 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 PORSCHE Carrera 3.6 Convertible** in lapis blue with metropole leather, bose speaker upgrade, starlight navigation, phone system, cruise control, trip computer, heated seats, sports exhaust systemm, full Porsche service history, only 42,761 miles **£29,995**

04 **54 TOYOTA Celica 1.8 VVTi Premium Coupe.** In crystal silver with Montreal black leather interior, climate control, alloy wheels, immobiliser, deadlocks, alarm, CD, only 27,953 miles **£7,495**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 HDi 110bhp GTi 3-dr Hatchback.** In Sahara yellow with half anthracite leather/suede interior, digital air con, multi CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 22,755 miles **£6,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 182 Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** In met blue with half leather/suede interior, sports seats, traction control, cruise control, climate control, alloys, 6 cd auto changer, only 51,314 miles **£5,995**

04 **53 LAND ROVER Freelander 1.8S 3-Dr Hard Top.** In Bonatti grey with black dune interior, glass roof panels, air con, alarm, traction control system, only 54,460 miles **£5,495**

03 **53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles **£4,495**

02 **52 VOLKSWAGEN Golf TDi (130) 5-dr Hatchback.** In Reflex silver with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, climate control, CD changer, only 68,990 miles **£5,995**

01 **Y AUDI TT Roadster 1.8T Quattro (225)** in met silver with full granite leather, 18" alloy wheels, heated seats, trip computer, cruise control + climate control, cd multi-changer with BOSE stereo upgrade, only 63,010 miles.. **£8,495**

00 **X TVR Tuscan 4 litre 360bhp.** In crystal topaz pearl blue with portland grey leather interior, cd, 18" spyder alloy wheels, e/windows, cat 1 alarm, e/mirrors, a/c, substantial workshop portfolio, supreme example, only 36,000 miles **£12,995**

99 **T BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr Convertible.** In Green with green leather interior, colour coded bumpers, CD, alloy wheels, electric hood, only 51,300 miles **£5,995**

FAMILY

06 **56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles **£7,995**

06 **06 FORD Focus C-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr MPV** in tonic blue with dark flint interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 31,000 miles **£7,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 130 Fap Expression 5-Dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, electric windows, only 42,170 miles **£6,295**

06 **06 FORD Focus 1.6 115 Sport 5-dr Hatchback.** In Aquarius blue with Humy flint interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, immobiliser, only 36,600 miles **£6,495**

05 **55 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique** in met platinum silver with ruche cloth interior, auto lights, auto wipers, air con, cd, clour coded bumpers, only 16,380 miles **£5,795**

04 **54 PEUGEOT 206 SW 2.0 HDi 90 XSi 5-dr Estate.** China blue, black/grey merlin interior, a/c, body coloured bumpers, cd, alloys, only 45,796 miles **£5,995**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 120 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In metallic silver, with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, CD, colour coded bumpers, air con, only 42,955 miles **£5,995**

02 **52 NISSAN Almera 1.8 SVE 5-dr Hatchback.** In caterpillar green with grey tungsten cloth, cd, a/c, reversing sensors, colour coded bumpers, only 44,300 miles **£3,995**

02 **52 AUDI A4 1.9 TDi SE.** In denim blue with phoenix blue upholstery, climate control, cd, alloys, only 26,075 miles **£7,995**

01 **51 VOLKSWAGEN Golf S 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In ??? blue with dark interior, air con, CD, colour coded bumpers, service history, only 54,500 miles **£3,795**

01 **Y BMW 3 Series 1.9i 316 4-dr Saloon.** In bright red with dark interior, electric windows, colour coded bumpers, driver and passenger airbags, only 49,125 miles **£4,295**

SMALL

08 **58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C).** 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles **£8,495**

08 **58 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 VVT-I T2 5-dr Hatchback.** In crystal silver, electric windows and mirrors, CD, multi-function steering wheel, only 3,725 miles **£7,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme Hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£6,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Expression 3-dr** in platinum silver met with voile interior, cd, air con, alloy wheels, remote central locking, elec windows, alarm and immobiliser, only 4,747 miles **£6,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus Sport** in pearl black pearlescent with extreme interior, colour coded bumpers, remote central locking, alloy wheels, alarm and immobiliser, electric windows, only 22,488 miles **£5,295**

06 **55 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVT-i Sport** in carbon quartz met with dark flint interior, alloy wheels, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, elecctric windows, only 51,300 miles **£4,995**

05 **55 FORD KA Luxury 1.3 3-dr Hatchback.** In Tonic blue with ebony leather interior, air con, quick clear screen, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 16,980 miles **£4,995**

04 **54 FORD Fiesta Flame 1.4 Limited Edition 5-dr Hatchback.** In Flare orange with Kompass silver interior, CD, alloy wheels, roof spoiler, air con, only 36,585 miles **£4,695**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 FORD Fiesta 1.4 SILVER Limited Edition.** In moondust silver with full midnight black leather, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, cd, only 29,775 miles **£4,995**

04 **04 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In Platinum silver with dark grey interior, sunroof, alloy wheels, CD, front fogs, only 37,700 miles **£4,495**

04 **04 ROVER Streetwise 1.4 16v 3-dr** in trophy yellow with sebring half leather interior, cd, roof rails, rear spoiler, alarm and immobiliser, only 41,590 miles **£3,495**

02 **02 PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe Cabriolet S 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 64,220 miles **£5,495**

02 **52 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique 3-dr Hatchback** in met silver with dark interior, air con, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, auto lights, only 48,060 miles **£3,495**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr** in platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46.010 miles **£3,995**

00 **X RENAULT Megane 1.4 16v Sport Alize 2-dr Coupe.** In Monaco blue with blue interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, immobiliser, only 62,000 miles **£2,495**

L **93 AUSTIN Mini 1.3 Sprite 2-dr Saloon Automatic.** In night fire red with grey interior, all original specification, only 47,215 miles **£2,995**

06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles **£10,495**

05 **55 HYUNDAI Coupe SE 2.0** in ebony black with full black leather interior, sunroofg, air con, cruise control, alloy wheels, cd, only 68,000 miles **£5,995**

99 **T BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr Convertible.** In Green with green leather interior, colour coded bumpers, CD, alloy wheels, electric hood, only 51,300 miles **£5,995**

03 **53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles **£4,495**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi 68 Extreme Hatchback.** In black with anthracite interior, alloy wheels, cd, electric windows, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, only £35 per year road tax, 27,650 miles **£6,995**

00 **X RENAULT Megane 1.4 16v Sport Alize 2-dr Coupe.** In Monaco blue with blue interior, air con, CD, alloy wheels, immobiliser, only 62,000 miles **£2,495**

08 **58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C).** 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles **£8,495**

04 **04 ROVER Streetwise 1.4 16v 3-dr** in trophy yellow with sebring half leather interior, cd, roof rails, rear spoiler, alarm and immobiliser, only 41,590 miles **£3,495**

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Rhys' hat-trick can't turn the tide for Vale Wanderers at Llandaff

WITH a pitch that resembled a swamp on The Common at Dinas Powys, the Vale Wanderers took on a well-drilled Llandaff side and came off second best in an entertaining game which made light of the underfoot conditions.

Wanderers captain Rhys Forse was once again the star performer for the Wanderers with an excellent hat-trick of solo tries.

The match started brightly for The Wanderers with some good early tackles going in and the boys attempting to get the ball wide through the hands.

However, these tactics handed the visitors their first two tries through interceptions, with the home team trying to force passes in midfield.

The rest of the first half was pretty much one-way traffic with the home side's only try coming from captain Rhys Forse just before half time.

With the score at 43-5 at the break, the coaches and players knew that they had to improve in all areas of play if they were to avoid a massive defeat.

The half time team talk focussed on cutting out basic errors and retaining possession at the breakdown.

The second half opened with another try for Llandaff which came from a loose kick deep in The Wanderers 22.

Wanderers responded from the kick off with Rhys Forse grabbing his second try with a powerful run through the heart of the Llandaff defence.

The try was converted by rapidly improving fly-half Theo Richards.

With both sides finding the conditions hard, mistakes were being made by both sides.

From some loose handling on their own 22 Llandaff spilt the ball which was picked up by Theo Richards who used some good footwork to score a fine try which he converted.

Llandaff replied with an un-converted try before Forse got his hat-trick try out wide. Again the score was converted.

The match ended with another try for the visitors. The Wanderers had narrowed the deficit to a final score of 58-24 to Llandaff.

The Wanderers had won the second half 19-15.

The performance, while error strewn, was very encouraging from a team which is still in it's infancy and every time the boys play improvements are being made.

The coaching team are particularly impressed with the way the boys have put aside their normal club rivalries to work together as a team.

TIM JONES

Who wants to build what and where?

Mr Robert Oakes – **Goldway House, Llanmihangel** – stables, tack and feed shed.
Mr Nigel Beere – **land at Bendrick Road, Barry** – construction of four residential dwellings with on-site parking.
Dr Phil Ganderton – **33 Anchor Road, Penarth** – loft conversion to existing end terrace three storey town house.
Mr Mark Rees – **Warren House, Pendoylan, Cowbridge** – ancillary building to support existing house, to provide storage for machinery for the maintenance of the grounds and wood chip storage for the heating of the house.
Mr David Pitt – **Park View, Bonvilston** – single storey rear extension, conservatory, relocation of gas tank, single storey garage/store and tennis pavilion and court.
Mr Jones – **18 Sir Ivor Place, Dinas Powys** – existing conservatory to be demolished and replaced.
Mr John Homfray – **Walnut Cottage, Penllyn** – amendments to full planning permission 2009/00717/FUL (1) relocation of main entrance - front elevation; (2) enlargement of existing porch - rear elevation.
Mr Ian Hargreaves – **23 Clive Place, Penarth** – replacement of front windows.
Mr and Mrs Selby – **Ty Rholben, Port Road West, Barry** – rear and side extension with new roof over.
Mr Simon Hooper – **Castle Farm, St Georges-Super-Ely** – proposed internal/external alterations and repair to include internal/external finishes, new roof covering in natural slate, repair and partial reconstruction of stacks/external staircase, structural repairs to roof.
Mr T and Mrs M Giles – **Two Jays, St Georges-Super-Ely** – double storey extension to side and conversion of existing garage.
Mr and Mrs A Miller – **The Rickyard, Upper Farm Court, Rhoose Road, Rhoose** – demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new dwelling including conversion of existing barn.
Mr Kevin Eade – **Fontygary Inn, Rhoose** – elevated lighting to provide illumination of walkways to touring park.
Mrs C Seaton – **Plymouth House West, Dimlands Road, Llantwit Major** – remove ash tree from front garden.
Vale of Glamorgan Council Children and Family Services – **The Family Centre, 14 Albert Crescent, Penarth** – reduce height of conifers on shared boundary with 10 Church Avenue and felling of Copper Beech on shared boundary with 13 Albert Crescent.
Vale of Glamorgan Council – **land at end of Cul de Sac, Maes y Ffynnon, Bonvilston** – outline application for residential development of land for three houses (Minute number C89).
Dr Jacinta Tan – **19 Chantry Rise, Penarth** – rear extension at first floor level to main bedroom. Part new roof to side, single storey garage, to allow for raised floor level internally.
Mr and Mrs G Perkins – **Castle Court, Broad Close Lane, Moulton** – retention of turnout area and amended ground levels, retention and reduction in scale of existing gabion walling and new site planting.
Miss Xiu Juan Cao – **Mayflower, 40 Burlington Street, Barry** – lawful development certificate for use of premises as an A3 (food and drink) use.

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Adams 'weaves magic' but Barry Seconds are pipped in close game

CARDIFF HSOB 2nd XV 24
BARRY 2nd XV 21

BARRY came into this match knowing that a win would propel them straight into contention for promotion, with supporters and players alike hoping for the 'W' in the column.

However, it was the home side, who are at the top of the table, who applied the pressure early on. Poor handling straight from the kick-off allowed CHSOB territory and they eventually turned that advantage into points as they pushed over for a converted try.

The home side tried to turn the screw as they sensed that Barry were there for the taking, but some strong tackling, particularly from the impressive Andrew Houldey on his first start and captain Kyle Case, turned over ball for the away side.

The ball was spread out wide quickly and Ashley Adams kicked forward for the talented back line to chase.

The returning Luke Bounds was on hand to profit from the kick, and beat several defenders before setting up scrum-half Joel Williams to cross. Adam Lee slotted over the formalities.

CHSOB were well drilled, however, and they never allowed Barry to settle down. They attacked the breakdown area aggressively and were rewarded when quick ball released a runner who powered through for an unconverted try.

Barry attempted to strike back just before half-time. Superb work from scrum-half Williams saw him kick the ball out of his opposite number's hands, and he then followed it up with a kick and chase.

He seemed to have grounded the ball perfectly for a superb solo try, only for the official to disallow it, much to the dismay of the Barry players and coaching staff. It remained 12-7 at half-time.

Some lacklusture defending right from the kick-off saw CHSOB threaten again, but as they steamrolled towards the line they were halted by a thunderous tackle from Julian McTavish, and a certain try was saved.

The home side, however, did strike moments later, as they charged down a kick and grounded in the corner. The conversion was missed.

Just as Barry appeared to be out of the game they rallied again. Grantley Harris intercepted expertly in midfield, cut a great angle before offloading superbly to Luke Bounds, who raced home to score. With Lee adding the extras, there was suddenly only three points in the game.

With flanker Kyle Rendall limping off injured, it meant coach Rhydian Scott had to shuffle his pack, and he brought on Ken Chow at wing to move Bounds into flanker.

It was the former who knocked on from a high ball, which allowed the home side to camp near the Barry line, but some superb last-ditch defence and great scrummaging held CHSOB off.

Barry were unfortunately unable to clear their lines completely and CHSOB scored again with five minutes remaining, pushing over for a converted try.

With the game seemingly lost, Adams weaved his magic once more, picking up on a loose ball to run half the length of the pitch to score underneath the posts.

The away side attempted one last rally in the last play of the game, but the home side held firm and hung on for a narrow victory.

Team: Evans, Bounds, Harris, D Williams, Adams, J Williams, Lee, Houldey, Turnbull, Hosking, McTavish, Haskell, Case (c), Rendall, Rolfe.

Substitutes: Chow, R Williams.

Man-of-the-match: Houldey and J Williams.

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08 1.6HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr Diesel Estate	Blue	8,749 miles	£14,995
57 1.6HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr EGS Diesel Est	Mauve	12,659 miles	£13,495
07 2.0HDi 16v VTR+ 5dr EGS Diesel Est	Silver	21,659 miles	£13,495
CITROEN C4 PICASSO			
57 2.0 16v SX 5dr EGS (5 seat) Estate	Silver	7,723 miles	£10,495
CITROEN C5			
08 2.0HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Diesel Saloon	Silver	11,863 miles	£12,495
09 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Auto Diesel	Red	14,994 miles	£13,995
58 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Diesel	Blue	18,927 miles	£12,995
06 HDi 16v Exclusive 5dr Diesel Hatch	Silver	35,000 miles	£7,995
CITROEN RELAY			
58 2.2 HDi H1 Van 120ps 33 L1	White	5,041 miles	£12,645
CITROEN XSARA PICASSO			
59 1.6i 16v Desire 5dr Estate	Silver	1 mile	£10,995
03 2.0i 16v Exclusive 5dr Auto Estate	Green	48,500 miles	£4,295
08 1.6 HDi 92 VTX 5dr Diesel Estate	Black	25,676 miles	£9,995
VAUXHALL MERIVA			
54 Meriva 1.6 8v Enjoy 5dr Estate	Blue	19,500 miles	£4,695

08 CITROEN C4 Picasso 2.0i 16v SX EGS Est 5dr, Silver, 7,723 miles **£10,495**

58 CITROEN C5 2.0 HDi 16v VTR+ 4dr Saloon, blue, 18,927 miles **£12,995**

07 C3 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch Silver, 35.500 miles **£6,495**

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03 Peugeot 206 2.0 GTI SP1 3dr in blue met, lthr, excellent condition throughout. ONLY 61K, alloy, a/c £4,495

04 Volkswagen Polo 1.9 SDI Twist 2 in silver, 51,000 miles DIESEL 3dr model. Unmarked condition £4,495

04 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Silver 3dr in silver met, FULL JAVA BLACK LEATHER, traffic master, air con . . . . . .£4,495.

04 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5dr in black, late shape, low insurance, economical 5dr. A/c, e/w, e/m, alloys £3,795

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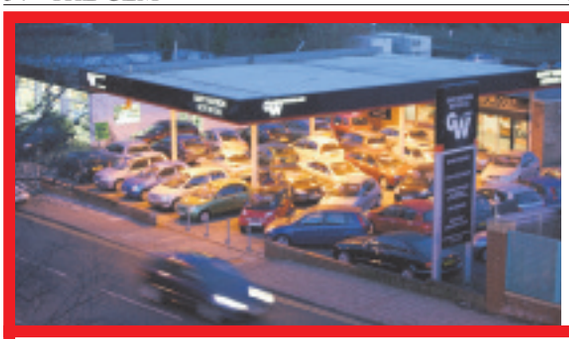

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03	**MERCEDES E270 Diesel Avantgarde Auto.** Steel blue, 59,000 miles, with sat nav	**£9,995**
03	**AUDI TT 180** in met blue with black leather trim, 74,000 miles	**£8,995**
06	**MINI Cooper.** In met blue + white, 37,000 miles, 1 owner with chilli pack and climate	**REDUCED BY £800 TO £8,495**
54	**CHRYSLER Voyager 2.5CRD SE** in silver, 45.000 miles, diesel, 7-seater	**£6,995**
05	**NISSAN Terrano II 2.7 TDi** in gold over silver, 78,000 miles, diesel 7-seater 4x4	**£6,995**
V	**MERCEDES SLK 230 Auto.** In silver, full leather trim, 62,000 miles, stylish convertible at	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £6,995**
55	**HONDA Civic 1.6 Executive 5-dr** in forest pearl silver with black leather trim, 35,000 miles, fsh	**£7,495**
03	**MINI Cooper S.** In light met blue with white roof, 73,000 miles with fsh, panoramic roof, a/c, 1/2 leather etc	**£7,695**
05	**RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique CC.** In silver, 43,000 miles, 4 seater convertible at	**£6,995**
02	**JAGUAR S Type 2.5 SE Auto.** Silver with black leather, low mileage, local car	**£5,995**
52	**JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 SE Auto** in zircon blue with full leather trim, sat nav, cd, climate, etc	**£4,995**
52	**PEUGEOT 206 CC 2.0 SE.** In silver with black leather trim, 57,000 miles, 4-seater convertible	**£4,995**
02	**NISSAN X-Trail 2.0 Sport** in champagne metallic, 47,000 miles, superb value 4x4 at	**£4,995**
03	**VAUXHALL Zafira 2.0 DTi Comfort** in silver, 73,000 miles, 7-seat diesel at	**£4,495**
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56	**PEUGEOT 307 1.6 XSi 5-dr** in silver, low mileage family hatch at	**£6,495**
56	**VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SXi 3-dr (new shape)** in black, 51,000 miles, stylish coupe at	**£6,495**
56	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SXi 3-dr (new shape)** in silver, 23,000 miles, alloys, etc	**£5,995**
56	**SUZUKI Swift 1.5 VVTi GLX 5-dr** in silver, 31,000 miles with keyless go, alloys, etc	**£5,995**
55	**PEUGEOT 407 2.0 HDi SE.** In met-grey, 51,000 miles, comfortable stylish diesel at	**REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,995**
55	**VW Golf 1.4 FSi 5-dr.** In electric blue, superb looking car, 18" alloys, low insurance	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995**
54	**RENAULT Megane VVTi Privilage Automatic 5-dr.** met jade, half leather trim, low mileage	**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995**
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05	**PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Quiksilver 3-dr.** 31,000 miles, sought-after limited edition model	**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995**
06	**CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 Sport 3-dr.** In black, with black leather trim, 37,000 miles	**£4,695**
04	**FORD Fiesta 1.4 Flame 3-dr** in silver, 44,000 miles with alloys, cd, etc	**£4,295**
04	**RENAULT Megane 1.6 Expression 5-dr** in black, 49,000 miles, familu hatch	**£4,295**
06	**FORD Ka 1.3 Collection** in April green, 23,000 miles with decals	**REDUCED BY £800 TO £3,995**
05	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Twin Port SXi.** In met silver, 48,000 miles, 1 local owner	**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £3,995**
54	**SMART4Two. 700cc True Style Auto** in met black, panoramic roof, alloys, cd	**£3,995**
02	**VW Polo 1.4TDi SE 5-Dr.** In met. Blue, low mileage diesel at	**£3,995**
04	**PEUGEOT 307 1.4 5-dr** in met grey with cdm e/w, c/l, alloys, privacy glass	**£3,795**
54	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.3 Diesel SXi Automatic.** In silver, 73,000 miles	**REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,495**
54	**CITROEN C2 1.1LX 3-dr.** In met red with cd, under 40,000 miles, low ins & road tax	**REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,495**
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02 02 SUZUKI Wagon R 1.3 GL Special 5dr. Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, a/c, e/w, alloys **£3,475**
03 03 FIAT Punto 1.2 Active 5dr. Blue met, 47k miles, rcl, pas, e/w, cd **£3,675**
03 03 TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 AUTO. Blue met, 25k, rcl, pas,ew, cd **£3,975**
03 03 SKODA Fabia 1.9 TDi Turbo Diesel 5dr. Green met, 61k miles, rcl, cd, alloys **£4,475**
03 53 SEAT Ibiza 1.2 5-dr. Grey met, 52k, rcl, pas, ew, cd **£3,975**
04 04 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Expression 5dr. Blue met, 32k miles, rcl, pas, e/w, cd **£4,675**
04 54 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 3dr SXI. Blue metallic, 53k miles, rcl, alloys, ew, pas **£4,475**
05 54 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 3-dr. Silver, met, 58k miles, rcl, pas, ew, cd **£4,475**
05 54 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Finesse 3-dr. Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, pas, ew, cd **£4,475**
05 05 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr. Silver met, 50k miles, rcl, ew, pas, cd **£3,965**
06 06 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 16v Enjoy 5dr. Met purple, 12k miles rcl,pas,ew,cd **£5,975**
06 56 HYUNDAI 1.4 Getz GSi 3-dr. Black, met, 15k miles, rcl, ew, pas, cd **£4,975**
07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Campus 5-dr, grey met, 39k miles, rcl, pas. ew, cd **£5,775**
07 07 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 3-dr, silver met, 39k miles, ew, pas, cd **£6,475**
07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Life (a/c) 3-dr, grey met, 26k miles, rcl, pas, cd, ew **£6,475**
07 07 CITROEN C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr. Met black, cd, a/c, pas, 12k miles **£6,975**
09 09 CITROEN 1.0 VTR 3-dr. Met black, 8k miles, rcl, pas, cw, cd **£7,475**

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02 02 NISSAN Almera Twister 1.5 5-dr. Mint green met, 19k miles, rcl, pas, cd, ew **£3,475**
03 53 MAZDA 6 2.0 TS2 DIESEL (136). Silver met, 80k miles, alloys, cd, a/c, ew, rcl **£4,975**
04 04 HONDA Jazz 1.4 DSI SE AUTO 5dr. Silver metallic, rcl,cd,ew, alloys **£4,975**
05 05 RENAULT Megane 1.4 Rush 3-dr Silver met, 53k miles, alloys, rcl, a/c, cd **£4,475**
05 05 FORD Mondeo 2.2 TDCi TURBO DIESEL Titanium 155. Black met, 45k miles, rcl, alloys, e/w, cd, a/c **£7,975**
07 07 FIAT Grande Punto 1.2 Dynamic 5dr. Met blue, e windows, rcl, 5k miles **£6,975**
07 07 FORD Mondeo TURBO DIESEL 2.0 TDCi 1x 5-dr. Black met, 34k miles, rcl, pas, ew, cd **£7,475**
07 07 PEUGEOT 307 Hdi 90SE TURBO DIESEL. Green/grey met, 38k miles, alloys, rcl, ew, cd, a/c **£7,975**

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00 W PORSCHE 911 Carrera 4 Coupe AUTO. 75k miles, fsh, met purple, many extras inc 2 tone exhaust **£15,975**
02 52 BMW 325ci Sport AUTO Coupe. Blue met, 72k miles, sand leather, alloys, a/c, rcl, cd **£7,975**
03 52 PEUGEOT 206cc Convertible. Silver met, 38k miles, rcl, e/w, cd, 2 tone leather **£5,975**
03 53 HYUNDAI 2.0 Coupe SE. Blue met, 51k, full leather, rcl, a/c, alloys **£4,975**
04 53 MGTF 1.8 135 CONVERTIBLE. Silver met, 31k miles, alloys, rcl, e/w, pas **£4,975**
04 04 TOYOTA Celica VVTi. Met silver, 39k, S/H, sports pack, leather, sunroof, a/c **£7,475**
04 54 RENAULT Megane 1.9 DCi 3dr (120bhp) Dynamique TURBO DIESEL. 60k miles, panoramic roof, rcl, a/c, e/w **£5,475**
05 54 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi SRI AUTO 5dr. Met blue, alloys, a/c, fsh **£5,975**
05 05 HYUNDAI Sonata 2.4 CDX AUTO. Silver met, 50k miles, alloys, rcl, a/c, cd, full leather **£4,975**
06 56 CHEVROLET Lacetti Sport 1.8. Black met, 30k, alloys, cd, rcl, a/c **£5,975**
08 08 FIAT Grande Punto 1.4 Dynamic Sport. Grey, 12k miles, rcl, e/w, alloys, a/c **£7,975**

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04 04 DAEWOO Tacuma 1.6 Extra MPV, silver met, 22k miles, rcl, ew, pas, roof rails **£3,475**
04 04 HYUNDAI Matrix 1.8 CDX MPV. Silver met, full leather, rcl, ew, cd **£3,975**
04 04 FORD Galaxy 2.4 AUTO Ghia MPV. Met silver, 90l miles, rcl, a/c, alloys, cd, cruise **£5,975**
04 54 BMW X5 3.0D AUTO Sport. Silver met, 104k, fsh, alloys, sat nav, cd, climate, full leather **£12,975**

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06 56 VAUXHALL Agila 1.2 Design 5dr. Silver met, **only 1,900 miles!** New £8,975 **Ours £5,975** **Saving £3,000**
06 56 FORD Fiesta 1.6 5dr Style Climate AUTO. Only 2,300 miles! New £11,275 **Ours £6,775** **Saving £4,500**
56 06 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 5dr Life (A/C) Blue met, **only 4,900 miles!** New £14,975 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £8,000**
06 56 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5dr. Met gold, **only 3200 miles!** New £14,336 **Ours £6,475** **Saving £7,861**
06 56 CITROEN C3 1.6 SX 5dr AUTO. Met blue, **only 5200 miles!** New £12,182 **Ours £6,475** **Saving £5,707**
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06 56 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Sport 5dr. Grey met, **only 2,500 miles** New £11,475 **Ours £6,975** **Saving £4,500**
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06 06 RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique. Red met, **only 4,500 miles!** New £16,795 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £9,000**
58 09 FORD Fusion 1.4 5dr Style AUTO. Red met, **only 1,000 miles!** New £11,275 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £3,500**
06 56 RENAULT Scenic 1.6 Dynamique AUTO. Gold met, **only 2,700 miles** New £16,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £9,500**
06 56 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Style Climate AUTO. Blue met, **only 3,700 miles** New £11,475 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £4,000**
06 56 FORD C-Max 2.0 Zetec AUTO MPV. Blue met, **only 4,500 miles** New £17,475 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £10,000**
06 56 FORD Focus 1.6 Sport 5dr. Blue met, **only 5,600 miles** New £13,975 **Ours £7,475** **Saving £6,500**
08 58 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Expression 5dr. Blue met, **only 3,000 miles!** New £10,175 **Ours £7,975** **Saving £2,200**
09 58 VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life (A/C). Silver met, **only 741 miles** New £12,975 **Ours £8,475** **Saving £4,500**
09 58 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.2 5dr Hatch. Black met, **only 2,600 miles** New £10,475 **Ours £8,475** **Saving £2,000**
08 08 HONDA Jazz 1.4 5dr SE. Blue met, **only 4,800 miles!** New £11,475 **Ours £8,975** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 5dr Life. Silver met, **only 1,700 miles!** New £14,975 **Ours £9,475** **Saving £5,500**
09 09 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 5dr club AUTO. Silver met, **only 400 miles!** New £11,975 **Ours £9,475** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 CITROEN Berlingo 1.6 HDi 5dr VTR. Blue met, **only 2,200 miles!** New £12,475 **Ours £9,975** **Saving £2,500**
09 09 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style+ 5dr. Black met, **only 650 miles** New £12,97 **Ours £10,475** **Saving £2,500**

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GEM sport

Gatland's gamble: can it thwart the Gallic march to a Grand Slam?

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

WELSH head coach Warren Gatland lived up to his reputation for springing a surprise or two on rugby's media pack, with five changes to the line-up against France on Friday night – only two enforced by injuries to lock Alun Wyn Jones and hooker Gareth Williams.

He had already said that Jones would be replaced by Bradley Davies, whose mother sadly died last week, but few predicted that the Blues man would be joined in the second row by his unheralded but deserving regional partner, Deiniol Jones, unseating encumbent Luke Charteris, who drops to the bench.

With a more rugged, if relatively inexperienced second row (just seven caps each), Gatland has also gone for a big all-Ospreys front row by bringing back Huw Bennett to replace Williams, and has moved Jonathan Thomas to his rightful position on the blindside of the scrum, to replace banished buggy man Andy Powell.

The changes are clearly designed to stiffen up the Welsh pack to meet the power of the awesome French eight head-on, while also increasing lineout and breakdown options, both areas in close need of attention.

The replacing of Gareth Cooper in the starting line-up by his in-form Blues teammate, Richie Rees, was perhaps expected, as was the return of wing Leigh Halfpenny.

However, the latest rebuff to out-of-favour Dwayne Peel mystifies those who rate him as still one of the most gifted all-round scrum halves in Britain, if not Europe.

Should, heaven forbid, rookie Rees be injured very early on, it will be the Ospreys' Mike Phillips, with a mere 40 minutes regional game time under his belt after his lengthy absence through injury, who will be called on from the replacements bench for this most testing of Six Nations assignments.

Gatland's selection is doubtless a calculated gamble, and the most loyal supporters in world rugby will be praying that it all comes off against a French team that is coming to the Millennium Stadium supremely confident that this is their year for a Gallic Grand Slam.

Welsh emphasis will surely be on quick ball to the talented backs, and then moved out wide at every opportunity, to circumvent French forward and midfield power (in the menacing shape of man-mountain centre Mathieu Bastareaud), rather than become embroiled in sterile crash-bang assaults up the middle, as England did so unspectacularly against Italy last weekend.

It will require a superhuman, highly-disciplined and, above all, error-free 80-minutes – something that has eluded Wales in recent outings.

The task is not impossible and the rewards for success will be great, not least in terms of the team's physical and psychological progress towards Rugby World Cup 2012.

With Ireland, still smarting from a heavy defeat to France, taking on the unbeaten English at Twickenham, the eventual outcome of this year's Six Nations championship could well be decided this weekend.

WALES TEAM

Lee Byrne (Ospreys); Leigh Halfpenny (Cardiff Blues), James Hook (Ospreys), Jamie Roberts (Blues), Shane Williams (Ospreys); Stephen Jones (Scarlets), Richard Rees (Blues); Paul James, Huw Bennett, Adam Jones (Ospreys), Bradley Davies, Deiniol Jones (Blues), Jonathan Thomas (Ospreys), Martyn Williams (Blues), Ryan Jones (Ospreys, capt)

Replacements: Ken Owens (Scarlets), Rhys Gill (Saracens), Luke Charteris (Newport Gwent Dragons), Sam Warburton (Blues), Mike Phillips (Ospreys), Andrew Bishop (Ospreys) , Tom Shanklin (Blues).

FRANCE TEAM

Clement Poitrenaud (Toulouse); Benjamin Fall (Bayonne), Mathieu Bastareaud (Stade Francais), Yannick Jauzion (Toulouse), Alexis Palisson (Brive); Francois Trinh-Duc (Montpellier), Morgan Parra (Clermont Auvergne); Thomas Domingo (Clermont Auvergne), William Servat (Toulouse), Nicolas Mas (Perpignan), Lionel Nallet (Racing-Metro), Pascal Pape (Stade Francais), Thierry Dusautoir (Toulouse, capt), Julien Bonnaire (Clermont Auvergne), Imanol Harinordoquy (Biarritz).

Replacements: Dimitri Szarzewski (Stade Francais), Jean-Baptiste Poux (Toulouse), Julien Pierre (Clermont Auvergne), Alexandre Lapandry (Clermont Auvergne), Frederic Michalak (Toulouse), David Marty (Perpignan), Julien Malzieu (Clermont Auvergne).

Three tries are not enough as Cowbridge pipped by Penygraig

WITH both teams looking to consolidate their mid table position, Cowbridge entertained Penygraig at the Athletic Ground last Saturday.

Cowbridge had an opportunity to go in to the lead in the first minute with a long range penalty which was just wide.

Penygraig responded quickly with a good try in the corner following some crisp passing by the three-quarters.

As the Cowbridge scrum started to creak, a break down the blindside gave Penygraig their second try after 15 minutes.

These setbacks seemed to spark Cowbridge into action and good interpassing between forwards and backs saw the strong-running Huw Lougher brought down just before the try line, with the loose ball snapped up by wing Ian Overton for the first Cowbridge try, followed by a fine conversion from Lougher.

Cowbridge were now showing more aggression, with captain Steve Birchenough leading the way. Some weaving runs from Overton and a few penalty opportunities raised the Bridge's confidence.

However, in the 10 minutes before half-time, with the Cowbridge scrum under increasing pressure, Penygraig hit back with two tries and a conversion.

Half-time: Cowbridge 7 Penygraig 22.

Cowbridge were on the back foot from the start of the second half and only some stalwart defence kept Penygraig out, but only until the 11th minute when Penygraig scored their fifth try.

Now it was the turn of Cowbridge to turn on the pressure. After an inexplicable eight penalties to Cowbridge with no yellow card, they were finally rewarded with a fine Alun John try from two yards, well converted by full-back Richie Howsen.

Penygraig continued to be penalised for a variety of transgressions and, following some impressive forward drives, the ball was spun along the backs for Howsen to come into the line to score Cowbridge's third try.

The score was now 27-19 to Penygraig with seven minutes to go, and Cowbridge were straight back on the attack, looking for at least a losing bonus point and a fourth try bonus.

Sadly, it was Penygraig who had the final say with an unconverted try at the death.

Oh, and finally the referee yellow-carded a Penygraig forward!

The boys will be disappointed, having fought back with plenty of spirit in the second half, but lack of ball at crucial points in the first half proved to be their undoing.

The youth were more successful against Sully on the school field, winning 15-11 in a hard-fought match. Well done boys.

This Saturday, no doubt following a glorious Welsh victory over France on Friday night, the club take on Paris side ASDE at the Athletic Ground at 1.30pm. It should be a good afternoon at the club, with England v Ireland on later.

The next scheduled game for the Firsts is away to Senghennydd on March 6, followed by Dinas Powys away on March 27.

RV/RK

Under-7 teams show promise against Dinas

THE ground was wet and slippery underfoot, but this did not prevent the boys in the under-7s teams from Cowbridge and Dinas Powys producing a highly entertaining game of tag rugby, won by the visitors with a last gasp try by 5 to 4.

Dinas Powys scored two tries early on, but David Harris and Ben Farrell (a length of the field effort) levelled the scores.

A further try saw Dinas Powys lead at half time.

The teams exchanged tries in the second half with David, again, and Oliver Jarmain, who was excellent throughout, responding for Cowbridge.

Dinas scored at the death to win, which was hard on the Cowbridge boys who showed a massive improvement and deserved a draw.

A special mention should be made of Matthew Gilvear who worked his tags off throughout!

Team: Sam Coates; Ben Farrell; James Gilvear; Matthew Gilvear; David Harris; Robbie Hawkins; Oliver Jarmain and Aled Leitch.

KH

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